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Japan

Concern Over 'Protectionist' U.S. Trade Bill

OW2510094391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0931 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Japan is concerned over what it views as a "protectionist" bill coming before the U.S. Congress aimed at reviving the "Super 301" trade law, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents Japan strongly hopes such a bill, which smacks of "controlled trade and protectionism, will not be passed."

Watanabe was referring to the 17-0 vote Wednesday in the House of Representatives' subcommittee on commerce, consumer protection, and competitiveness in favor of the 1991 Fair Trade and Export Expansion Act. The bill was introduced to the House in January and has undergone extensive public hearings.

"Under this Super 301 there is a possibility that unilateral measures which are not based on the rules of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) may be involved," Watanabe said.

"This kind of bill is contrary to the objectives of both the U.S. and Japanese governments to maintain and strengthen the multilateral free trade system," he said.

The bill, introduced in the Senate on Tuesday by Senators Max Baucus and John Danforth, will go to the full House energy and commerce committee for action.

The Super 301 measure requires the administration to annually identify countries the U.S. says maintain barriers against its exports and impose punitive tariffs if bilateral negotiations fail to remove the alleged barriers.

Congresswoman Cardiss Collins, the Democratic subcommittee chairwoman, singled out Japan as the target country for the five- year extension of the Super 301 provision. The previous two-year provision expired last year.

Collins told the commerce subcommittee Tuesday, "Unless we keep the pressure on Japan to open its market through the use of authorities like Super 301, our trade problems with that country will only get worse."

Watanabe asserted the U.S. trade deficit "is fundamentally brought about by macroeconomic elements," such as deficit financing and "the lack of efforts for export."

"So it is inappropriate and improper for that country to try to attribute this cause to the country with which they have some deficit trade relationship," he said.

Political Settlement Urged for Rice Market Issue

OW2510034791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0336 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Japan should make a political decision on the opening of its rice market, a focal issue in the deadlocked Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, government sources said Friday.

It no longer is a problem to be tackled by bureaucrats, the sources said, and now it is a matter of how to reconcile the conflicting interests of farmers and consumers.

The sources said accepting tariffs on rice imports means a total liberalization of the rice market.

The question is whether consumers will benefit from market liberalization at the sacrifice of farmers or if they will suffer as Japan's farmers are forced out of business, the sources said.

Motoji Kondo, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, told reporters Friday he will oppose replacing the rice import ban with tariffs, which will lead to the opening of Japan's rice market.

Kondo said his stance remains unchanged regardless of the outcome of overall negotiations in the Uruguay Round.

Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, is scheduled to submit a proposal in early November for a settlement of the stalled farm trade negotiations.

Kondo said high-level negotiations will be required to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the issue.

Business Leader Urges Action

OW2510071791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0705 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—An influential business leader called on the government Friday to make a political decision to open Japan's rice market to imports.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), told a news conference Japan should not miss the opportunity to open its rice market.

He made the appeal in connection with the presidential election of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party set for Sunday.

Hayami warned Japan should not miss an opportunity to make a political decision on the rice issue or it will lose the leadership in the current Uruguay Round of trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

He said tariffication of rice imports will eventually lead to the total opening of the market because tariffs would gradually decline in the long run.

Kaifu May Allow Soviet Military Planes To Land

OW2410124591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1225 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu indicated Thursay that Japan will grant Russian President Boris Yeltsin's request to land Soviet military planes in Japan to transport food and medicine Tokyo pledged in its 2.5 billion dollar emergency aid package.

Kaifu, talking to reporters at his official residence, said, "things will go in that direction if it is necessary to achieve the goal."

Earlier in the day, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto told a news conference Japan is ready to favorably consider the Russian proposal.

The government will decide on granting landing rights to the aircraft after receiving a formal request, Sakamoto said.

Yeltsin made the proposal in a meeting in Moscow with Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao on Wednesday.

Yuji Tanahashi, vice minister of international trade and industry, told a press conference Thursday the government sees little problem in allowing Soviet military planes to land in Japan, if it is for humanitarian purposes.

Research Team To Study Soviet Nuclear Industry

OW2410045491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0439 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will send a mission to the Soviet Union next spring to study how Japan's pledged assistance to the country should be applied in the nuclear power area, MITI officials said Thursday.

The mission, which will consist of experts from the ministry, the Japanese nuclear power industry, and academic world, will study the current operation of Soviet nuclear power plants, including safety control and waste disposal, the officials said.

The mission is a preliminary step in accordance with the government's pledge at the London summit to accept a total of 1,000 Soviet and East European nuclear power industry workers for training during the next 10 years, the officials said.

The findings of the mission will be helpful in setting up programs for trainees to teach them what they really need to know, they said.

The composition and schedule of the mission has not yet been finalized, but the plan will be outlined to the Soviet side in the first Japan-Soviet nuclear talks slated next week in Moscow, the officials said.

Ministry To Send Farm Survey Team to USSR

OW2410123191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 24 OCT 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO—The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries said Thursday [24 October] it will send a survey team to the Soviet Union on Sunday to study the country's food and farming situation until November 3.

The decision to send the mission was prompted by concerns about a possible Soviet food shortage this winter, ministry officials said.

The ministry hopes to collect and analyze information related to food consumption and distribution and to agricultural production, in case Moscow needs assistance in the future.

The survey team will be divided into two groups—one examining the situation in Moscow and St. Petersburg and the other heading for Voronezh and Rostov.

Recently, the Farm Ministry, together with the Foreign Ministry, sent a survey mission to the Soviet Far East.

But this mission plans to closely examine the situation in Moscow and the southern part of the Russian Republic, the officials said.

Bank Head Opposes Rescheduling Soviet Debt

OW2510061791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0604 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Mitsuhide Yamaguchi, head of the Export-Import bank of Japan, said Friday he is opposed to rescheduling the Soviet Union's external debt.

Yamaguchi told a news conference Moscow's commitment to accept four conditions set forth by the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations is indispensable for Western aid to the country.

The terms laid down by the G-7 nations at their meeting in Bangkok earlier this month called for Moscow, among others, to introduce a comprehensive economic reconstruction program and disclose in full the country's economic and financial data.

Yamaguchi said there has so far been no response from the Soviet Union to Japan's offer of emergency food aid worth 100 million dollars.

Deputies of the G-7 nations will meet with Soviet officials in Moscow this weekend to discuss Western aid plans for the Soviet Union.

The group consists of Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Japan, and the United States.

Government sources said the group is likely to offer a compromise aid package, combining a moratorium on Moscow's external debt repayments and a bridge loan, with Soviet gold reserves as collateral.

Yamaguchi's remarks were taken to mean he supports the combination package for aid to the Soviet Union.

Trade Insurance Program to USSR Under Study

OW2510031991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0307 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao said Friday part of Japan's 1.8 billion dollar trade insurance to the Soviet Union may be used on projects whose profits wi'l be collateral for the Japanese loans that funded them.

At a press conference after the regular weekly cabinet meeting, his first since his five-day tour of Moscow, Nakao said he is studying the scheme, which will probably put a priority on oil and gas projects that are very likely to be profitable.

The idea, he said, came because of lingering uncertainty over the relationship between the Soviet Union's federal and republic governments concerning debt obligations.

Japanese businesses want firmer guarantees for their involvement in Soviet projects, arguing that guarantees from the governments and banks alone are not enough under the current unstable circumstances in the Soviet Union.

Nakao, the first Japanese trade minister to visit the Soviet Union in 3 years, also said Japan should consider the proposed use of Soviet military airplanes to transport Japan's donation of 500 million dollars in food and medical supplies.

The food and medical supplies are included in Japan's 2.5 billion dollar emergency aid package along with the trade insurance.

He also said Japan and the Soviet Union agree that the emergency aid will be focused on the Soviet far east.

On the bilateral territorial dispute, the main obstacle for massive Japanese aid to the Soviets, Nakao said the Soviets gave him the impression that they are now trying to deal with the problem "head-on."

Open Market in European Economic Area Urged

OW2510104191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1025 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Japan wants the market of the proposed 19-nation European economic area to remain open to the world, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Taizo Watanabe was commenting to foreign correspondents on a recent merger agreement reached between the European Community and the European Free Trade Association.

Japan "fundamentally welcomes this (agreement) because it will serve the further vitalization of the economy in the area concerned," Watanabe said.

"But at the same time, we really hope it would be open to the outside," the spokesman said.

Nakayama Hints at Resuming Economic Aid to SRV

OW2510110591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama has told U.S. Secretary James Baker that Japan is about to enter into a "new stage" in its relations with Vietnam, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Nakayama was apparently referring to a reopening of economic assistance to Hanoi, which spokesman Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents is now "under study" in the Foreign Ministry.

Watanabe quoted Nakayama as telling Baker on Wednesday in Paris, "now that a Cambodian peace settlement has been achieved, we are entering into a new stage in our dialogue with Vietnam for the purpose of strengthening our relations."

Evidently responding to U.S. concerns over the timing of Japan's resumption of aid to Hanoi, Nakayama was said to have told Baker that Tokyo is "fully aware" of Washington's concerns regarding Vietnam's accounting for U.S. soldiers taken as prisoners-of-war (POWs) and those listed as missing-in-action (MIA).

The spokesman said Nakayama assured Baker "Japan wishes to keep and maintain a close and cooperative relationship with the U.S. Government on policy relating to Vietnam."

U.S. diplomatic pressure has so far prevented Tokyo from going ahead with its desire to implement full-scale economic assistance.

Asked by a Vietnamese journalist on whether Japan is going to resume its aid before, after, or in parallel with the United States, Watanabe replied simply that a resumption of aid "is under study."

The journalist reminded Watanabe that Japan has said it would make clear its policy on aid to Vietnam after a comprehensive Cambodian peace settlement was achieved.

A peace agreement among the four warring Cambodian factions was concluded in Paris on Wednesday.

Japan froze its economic aid to Vietnam in 1979 after that country invaded Cambodia in late 1978 to oust the Khmer Rouge and install the current government in Phnom Penh.

But it has since extended cultural grant aid and "humanitarian assistance" such as food and disaster relief aid.

Spokesman Hails UNESCO Decision To Reform

OW2510062691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Japan on Friday welcomed UNESCO's adoption of a Japanese-brokered reform proposal but warned that the U.N. agency still has "considerable room for improvement" in its administrative and financial sectors.

"This is the fruition of the common efforts made by member states desiring the reform of UNESCO, under Japan's initiative," Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said. "And the government of Japan welcomes this achievement."

The U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization unanimously adopted the draft resolution to reform itself at a meeting of its general conference in Paris on Thursday.

Despite efforts to depoliticize UNESCO under the leadership of Director General Federico Mayor since 1987, "there remained considerable room for improvement in the administrative and financial questions covering preparation and execution of the budget, as well as control and management of the secretariat," the spokesman said.

The Japanese reform proposal calls for changing executive board membership from individuals to countries and setting up a small committee of experts and a panel of intellectuals.

"Japan believes that by adopting the present draft resolution, UNESCO has taken a giant step toward its revitalization and intends to continue its efforts for the achievement of substantive results in the fields of administration, financing, and program execution," Watanabe said.

The spokesman said Japan will work to facilitate the early return to UNESCO of former member countries such as the United States, Britain, and Singapore, which left the agency to protest UNESCO's alleged politicization.

Nakayama Returns Home From Paris Conference

OW2510080091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0749 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama returned home Friday from the Paris International Peace Conference on Cambodia.

The Japanese minister was one of the 19 parties who signed a historic peace accord Wednesday designed to halt 13 years of war in Cambodia.

DPRK Urged To Accept Nuclear Inspection

OW2410132091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO—Japan will not establish diplomatic relations with North Korea unless Pyongyang accepts international inspection of its nuclear facilities, Japan's chief negotiator in the normalization talks said Thursday.

"This issue will inevitably arise at the talks," Noboru Nakahira said in a lecture in Tokyo.

He also said, "I am not sure whether North Korean negotiators conveyed Tokyo's position to President Kim Il-song. So Pyongyang appears to have failed to make a final decision on the matter."

Japan will continue to take up during future rounds of normalization talks the case of a Japanese woman allegedly kidnapped by North Korea, Nakahira said.

Japanese police say the woman, known as Li Un Hye in Korean, helped train a North Korean agent convicted in the 1987 bombing of a South Korean Airliner that killed 115 people.

The fourth round of talks held in Beijing in late August became bogged down over a Japanese demand for information on the woman.

Tokyo and Pyongyang are scheduled to hold the fifth round of normalization talks in mid-November.

ROK Envoy Criticizes DPRK Reparation Demands

OW2510093991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0920 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—South Korean Ambassador to Japan O Chae-hui on Friday slammed North Korea's demands for postwar compensation from Japan as being without foundation and "inappropriate."

In negotiations aimed at setting up diplomatic relations with Tokyo, Pyongyang has demanded that Japan pay it wartime reparations and additional compensation for 45 years of postwar hostility toward North Korea.

In a speech Friday, however, O criticized Pyongyang's position, saying, "North Korea's demands for wartime reparations and postwar compensation are without basis and inappropriate."

O said that any Japanese treaty with communist rival North Korea should be "in character and legally the same" as a similar 1965 treaty between Japan and South Korea.

When Tokyo normalized relations with Seoul, it agreed to pay 500 million dollars in grants and low interest loans in lieu of wartime reparations which it maintained it did not owe to its former colony.

O also urged North Korea to unconditionally comply with the standards of the International Atomic Energy Agency in inspecting its nuclear facilities.

"This is a duty of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (which North Korea has signed) and Pyongyang should not connect this with the issue of the U.S.," O said, adding Pyongyang's refusal to sign the IAEA agreement is a "violation of international law."

Pyongyang has refused to open its nuclear facilities to IAEA inspection, demanding that U.S. nuclear weapons allegedly stationed in South Korea first be withdrawn from the Korean Peninsula and that military bases in South Korea be simultaneously inspected.

Miyazawa on Building New International Order

OW2510105191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 25 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) presidential hopeful Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday that Japan must contribute to the construction of peace in the post Cold War era that has resulted from the end of ideological and political rifts between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Miyazawa, who is virtually assured of winning this Sunday's LDP presidential election, made the remark in a campaign speech heard by about 3,000 people gathered in front of Shinjuku Station in central Tokyo.

The LDP-organized campaign speech gathering was also attended by two other presidential candidates, Michio Watanabe and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka. It was held two days before balloting begins to choose the LDP's next president, who will automatically replace Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Miyazawa, who is a former deputy prime minister, said the United Nations will play a key role in establishing peace in the post Cold War era.

"Under these international circumstances, Japan must cooperate closely with world organizations so it can make contributions to the creation of a new peaceful world order," Miyazawa said.

The 72-year-old political veteran also said Japanese foreign policies will be oriented toward maintaining Japan-U.S. bilateral relations and ties to Southeast Asian countries that are as solid as they were during the Cold War era.

On relations between Japan and the Soviet Union, Miyazawa said Japan should extend economic and financial aid to the crippled giant in order to help the Soviet people live a peaceful life in a prosperous market-oriented economic society.

He said, "Japan is the only country in the world that can afford to provide economic and financial aid to the Soviet Union."

Miyazawa also referred to the four Soviet-held islands off eastern Hokkaido in northern Japan. He said that Tokyo must persuade the Soviet islanders to turn the four islands over to Japan by explaining that the move would provide them with a higher standard of living.

There have been mounting protests against the return of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai islets to Japan, especially among Soviets who have lived in the islands since the Soviet Union occupied them at the end of World War II.

Japan claims the island group is its territory.

Following Miyazawa's speech, Watanabe said it is very important for Japan to consider how it can sustain itself as the world's second most powerful economic might.

The former finance minister also said that although historically no country has been able to maintain political and economic supremacy for a long period of time, Japan should make every effort to retain its economic prosperity into the 21st century by making a large financial investments in technological research and development.

On political reform, Watanabe said the establishment of one-seat constituencies is not necessarily a political reform.

He said the LDP and opposition parties should have enough time to come to an agreement on political reform.

Mitsuzuka's proposed political reform ideas, however, included one-seat constituencies. He said the House of Representatives should be based on a simple single-seat constituency system, while the House of Councillors should be made up of economists, scholars, and other intellectuals.

Mitsuzuka said the simple one-seat constituencies, with proportional representation, should be in place by June 1993 if the government submits the bill to the Diet following next summer's upper house election.

The LDP's 395 Diet members and 1.75 million party members and associates will choose one of the three contenders in Sunday's election.

The winner needs to garner a simple majority of 249 votes in the first-round of balloting. If none of the candidates wins a simple majority, LDP parliamentarians will vote in a runoff election between the two top vote getters.

The victor will replace Toshiki Kaifu as LDP president on October 31, and will become prime minister at an extraordinary Diet session November 5.

The new president's term runs for 23 months, ending in September 1993.

Miyazawa on All-Party Accord on Political Reform

OW2410143791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO—The most likely prime ministerial hopeful Kiichi Miyazawa said Thursday that the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) should propose to opposition parties that they all reach a conclusion on political reform within one year.

Miyazawa, who is virtually assured of winning the LDP's presidential election and succeeding Toshiki Kaifu as prime minister, said the LDP should ask opposition parties to cooperate in reaching a decision on political reform.

A former deputy prime minister and finance minister, Miyazawa, 72, made the remark during a press conference in Osaka. He visited Osaka and Kobe to seek support from rank-and-file party members in the LDP presidential election on October 27.

The Diet last month scrapped a package of three political reform bills, which among other things called for introducing single-seat constituencies in elections for the House of Representatives.

Miyazawa attended rallies in Kobe and Osaka, and called on local party members and associates to back him.

Two other contenders—Michio Watanabe and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka—also went on campaign tours outside Tokyo.

Watanabe, 68, also a former finance minister, spoke in Tottori in western Japan and then flew back to Tokyo to attend a mass rally.

Watanabe, leader of the LDP's fourth-largest faction, later few to Ehime Prefecture in western Japan to address local party members in seven places in the prefecture.

The strife-torn Mitsuzuka faction lost two more members on Thursday and dropped to third place in terms of strength within the LDP.

Two House of Councillors members, Kenji Yamaoka and Yamato Kogure, quit the Mitsuzuka faction apparently in protest at the expulsion of longtime faction member Mutsuki Kato, the incumbent chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs and Research Council. This leaves the faction with 81 members.

Mitsuzuka, a former transport minister, entered the presidential campaign as head of an 89-member faction, the second largest after the 105-member faction founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Mitsuzuka, 64, visited the city of Katsuta in Ibaraki Prefecture on Thursday.

North Korea

SPA Chairman Hosts Party for South Delegation

SK2410153291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 24 (KCNA)—A party was hosted by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] this evening at the People's Palace of Culture for the South side delegation to the fourth North-South high-level talks.

Head Chong Won-sik and members of the South side delegation and reporters were invited to the party.

Head of the North side delegation Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, and members of the delegation and other senior officials were present.

Paek In-chon, vice-chairman of the SPA, spoke at the party.

He noted that at the talks, the two sides only defined the title of the document to be adopted in future and failed to adopt an agreement on nonaggression, reconciliation, cooperation and exchange which is of more fundamental and principled importance.

The authorities and politicians of the North and the South must harmonize with each other and people of all other walks of life, pool their strength on the way for peace and peaceful reunification of the country, he said, and continued:

If they harmonize and unite with each other in the common interests of the nation, they will be able to remove the North-South political and military confrontation, destroy the wall of division and solve the problem of establishing a unified state as one nation, transcending the differences in ideology and social system.

Paek In-chon sincerely hoped that a political consultative conference of the authorities and the representatives of political parties and public organisations for national reunification would be held at an early date so that a new chapter of history which would be the first to provide the nation with the way of national reunification might be opened.

Chief delegate of the South side Chong Won-sik spoke next.

He expressed thanks to the North side for arranging the meaningful party for the South side delegation and said his delegation would leave Pyongyang with the belief that our nation is immortal.

Further on SPA Chairman's Speech

SK2510080391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] A banquet for the South side's delegation to the fourth round of North-South high-level talks was arranged in the name of Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], and held at the People's Palace of Culture yesterday evening.

Members of the South side's delegation, including senior delegate Chong Won-sik, entourages, and reporters were invited to the banquet.

Attending the banquet were Yon Hyong-muk, head of our side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks, who is premier of the State Administration Council; members of the delegation; Paek In-chon, vice chairman of the SPA; Chi Chang-ik, general secretary of the Central People's Committee; Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland; Kim Yong-ho, vice chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Yo Pong-ku, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; and Yi Mong-ho, secretary of the SPA Standing Committee.

Vice Chairman Paek In-chon spoke at the banquet. He said that he was very happy to meet members of the South side's delegation here who are spending the last evening in Pyongyang and to exchange greetings with them.

In saying that "despite one nation and one territory, our brethren have confronted and competed against each other and undergone the tragedy of division for nearly half a century," Vice Chairman Paek In-chon noted that the nation's great task was discussed at the current talks to eliminate this tragedy. He said: However, at the current talks, which aroused great expectation and concern among the people of the world, as well as all of our fellow countrymen, the two side only defined the title of the document to be adopted in future and failed to adopt an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation, and exchange which is of more fundamental and principled significance. Then, he expressed regret over this.

Stressing that although they have different ideologies and ideals and that there are differences in their political views and religions, our fellow countrymen are the compatriots and brothers of the same blood who cannot live divided, Vice Chairman Paek In-chon said that as the nation of the same blood, we should achieve reconciliation and unity, build the grounds of peace where the entire nation can live without confrontation, and thus, open the road of national reunification.

Saying that "We firmly belive that the country's peace and reunification lie precisely in national reconciliation and unity," Vice Chairman Paek In-chon stressed that the persons in authority and politicians of the North and the South must harmonize with each other and that people of all social strata must pool their strength. He continued: If they harmonize and unite with each other in the common interests of the nation, they will be able to remove the North-South political and military confrontation, to destroy the barrier of division, and to solve the problem of establishing a unified state as one nation, transcending the differences in ideology and social system.

Vice Chairman Paek In-chon said: Proceeding from such a stance, we hope that not only the persons in authority of the North and the South, but also politicians of the North and the South meet with each other and that even civilians have mutual contacts so that all the nation can harmonize and unite.

Vice Chairman Paek In-chon stressed: The politicians of the northern half of our Republic will make all possible efforts to reduce the discord and confrontation within the nation into harmony and unity, to meet with national assemblymen and other ruling and opposition figures of the South side for the achievement of national reunification, and to negotiate with dissident oppostion figures of the South side. They will also meet anyone in the South side at any time, without concern for the form of contact and dialogue, bilateral or multilateral, if doing so is conducive to harmony, unity, and reunification.

Vice Chairman Paek In-chon sincerely hoped that a political consultative conference of the authorities and the representatives of political parties and public organizations for national reunification should be held at an early date so that a new chapter of history that will provide the entire nation with the way of national reunification would be opened.

Chong Won-sik, senior delegate of the South side, spoke next. He expressed thanks to the North side for arranging the significant banquet for the South side delegation and said that his delegation would leave Pyongyang with the belief that our nation is immortal.

Second-Day Session of Talks Reported

SK2510050791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] The second-day session of the fourth round of North- South high-level talks was held at 1000 yesterday morning [0100 GMT on 24 October] at the Cultural Palace of the People. The session was attended from our side by members of our delegation led by Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council. The session was attended from the South side by members of its delegation led by Chong Won-sik.

The second-day session proceeded in camera as agreed upon by the two sides. After the session, An Pyong-su, spokesman of our side's delegation, held a news conference. Spokesman An Pyong-su answered the questions raised by reporters.

Spokesman Says South Remains 'Obstinate' in Talks

OW2410125291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 24 KYODO—South Korea remained "obstinate" during negotiations in the North Korean capital between North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk and South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, North Korean spokesman An Pyong-su said Friday.

An told a press conference for Japanese reporters after the close of the fourth round of the inter-Korean prime ministerial negotiations that he could not say for certain whether an agreement could be signed at a fifth round in December. "There is a ray of light," An said.

But An said South Korea could not accept a North Korean call for a nuclear-free zone on the divided peninsula.

He said the denuclearization issue would probably be discussed again at the next round of talks.

Spokesman Gives Briefing at End of 2-Day Talks

SK2510064891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0624 GMT 24 Oct 91

[News briefing given by An Pyong-su, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland and spokesman of the DPRK delegation to the North-South high-level talks, after the second day of the fourth round of the talks, to ROK and DPRK reporters and foreign correspondents at the People's Palace of Culture on 24 October—recorded]

[Text] Good afternoon, reporters from home and abroad.

With the end of the second-day session, the fourth round of North-South high-level talks has ended. Reporters at home and abroad and all the people of the North and South were greatly interested in the talks. I believe that all of you are curious about the result of the fourth round of talks.

My assessment is that the fourth round of talks were positive. I would like first to announce the joint communique on the fourth round of talks, which was agreed upon by both sides.

The joint communique on the fourth round of North-South high- level talks:

The fourth round of North-South high-level talks were held from 23 to 24 October 1991 in Pyongyang.

During the talks both the North and South separately put forth their views and proposals for the nation's peace and peaceful reunification, and sincere discussions were held on these proposals.

During the talks, the following items were agreed upon, and it was decided to announce it jointly:

1. In the North-South high-level talks, the issues of reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange will be combined in a joint document of agreement.

2. The title of the joint document of the North-South agreement will be: Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and South.

3. Its composition and subtitles will be: Preamble; 1) North- South Reconciliation; 2) North-South Nonaggression; 3) North-South Cooperation and Exchange; and 4) Revision and Validity.

4. In order to determine the text of the joint document of agreement, both the North and South will hold a contact of delegates at the earliest date and finalize the text.

5. The North and South will hold the fifth round of North-South high-level talks from 10 to 13 December in Seoul.

This is the result of the fourth round of North-South high-level talks.

First I will tell you what we said during the talks about the South's keynote speech yesterday.

We expressed our views on the South's proposal that a single document be adopted.

In yesterday's keynote speech, the South side put forth three principles: turning the armistice agreement into a North-South peace treaty; resolving the issue of arms reduction on the basis of mutual trust; and exchanging people, goods, and information. We had said that this was the starting point of all our views and expressed our opinion on it.

The South side did not use the word, principle, this time but these were regarded as the three principles during the speech by the South side at the UN General Assembly. Thus, we had expressed our views on this fundamental matter.

We asked if this was appropriate and stated that this is not a principle for reunification or peace.

Because both sides had already agreed upon the principle for reunification at the 4 July joint declaration, there can be no other kind of principle regarding reunification. All we have to do is continue to abide by this principle and embody it.

Even if we regard this as a principle for peace, an issue is still pending: U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea. The most fundamental issue—the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea—is being overlooked here. Therefore, we cannot view this as a principle for peace either.

At this point, when even the fourth round of North-South high-level talks includes concrete discussions on various issues, such as the 32-article document of agreement, putting forth the so-called three principles, and so on, presenting some kind of principle is not advancing the talks. Rather, it makes the talks take a step backward. This is our opinion.

When viewing the content of the three principles, we can see that each of the three principles have fundamental problems.

The issue of turning the armistice agreement into a North-South peace treaty must be resolved by the parties that concluded the armistice agreement. The issue of turning the armistice agreement into a peace treaty on the Korean peninsula is not an issue between the North and South but an issue that we must resolve with the United States, the party that concluded the armistice agreement. Therefore, we can say that South Korea has nothing to do with this issue.

Moreover, under the circumstance that the South is still receiving U.S. military protection and continuously requesting it, even if we discuss this matter with South Korea we will not be able to receive any realistic guarantee. This is our view on the first principle.

The second principle is on achieving arms reduction after promoting trust. As I told you yesterday, it is unrealistic to achieve the arms reduction after promoting trust. A realistic guarantee for nonaggression is arms reduction. If the two sides leave their own massive forces in a confrontation, we cannot realistically guarantee nonaggression. For the two sides to simply notify each other of military exercises, to observe them, and to provide each other with military information under the pretext of promoting trust, which will end up in confirming each other's current million strength, is very unsatisfactory. We propose that we provide a firm, decisive guarantee for nonaggression by more positively, boldly achieving the arms reduction. This is our position on the second principle.

The third principle is on exchanging people, materials, and information. We think it is useless to adopt this issue as a principle. The issue of exchanging people, materials, and information—the word exchanging is underlined—may be enough in discussing relations between two countries. However, both of us have the mission of achieving reunification, rather than coexisting forever as two states. Therefore, we think that priority must be given to North-South cooperation over exchange. We expressed our position on the three principles.

Next, I will explain our views on the South's views and proposals. We stated that our views are different from the South side's views on nuclear inspection and the turning of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, which we proposed. As you learned yesterday, the South's view was that nuclear inspection was most urgent and that we must first accept it, which we are supposed to do as required by the international treaty. Our view on this is that we must clarify why we discuss nuclear inspection and nuclear weapons. The reason we discuss this matter is to remove the danger of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and save our nation from the danger of nuclear catastrophe. What urgent task, then, do we have to resolve? As I told you yesterday, the problem does not lie in the North, which does not pose any threat, much less any potential threat: The problem lies in that approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed in South Korea, ready to be activated and launched at any moment. It is very clear to anyone which side is more dangerous. We again stressed that the U.S. nuclear weapons must be removed completely.

However, we did not demand that the U.S. nuclear weapons be withdrawn unilaterally. Nuclear inspection is a matter that we must discuss not with the South but with the international organization. However, we made it clear this time that we are willing to solve this problem, too, even though it is not a matter for discussion during the current talks. We also reiterated that the declaration on turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone includes our proposal that the problem of removing the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea and that of nuclear inspection be solved at the same time.

In connection with the South side's keynote speech yesterday, we referred to the notion of achieving reunification through absorption. Yesterday, the South side made it clear that it has no intention of achieving reunification through absorption. Our side referred to the South's intention in today's talks.

We said: Words are not enough. Such an intention by the South side must be proved with deeds and policies. The South officially says that it would lead the North in opening up, making reforms, and changing and that it must take the initiative in solving the reunification problem. We said frankly that we consider these official remarks to be the evidence that the South is still obsessed with the notion of achieving reunification through absorption. However, we will watch to see if the South side proves its words—that it has no intention of achieving reunification through absorption—with deeds.

The next issue, which is one of the basic issues to be discussed at the fourth round of the talks, is the adoption of those proposals advanced by the two sides yesterday as one integrated document. Yesterday we left to the South side the option of adopting the proposals commonly put forward by the two sides. In other words, we told the South side yesterday that it may accept the adoption of the declaration of nonaggression and the agreement on reconciliation, cooperation, and exchange separately or that it may adopt them as one document. So, yesterday the South side consented to accept the latter. Thus, the two sides reached an agreement.

However, although the two sides reached an agreement, the problem is the content of the South side's draft document. We pointed out three points in connection with the South side-advanced draft document.

The first point is that the South side's draft document still smacks of two Koreas, that is, there is clear evidence of seeking two Koreas in the document. As a clear example of this, we pointed to the title of the South side-advanced agreement. The agreement's title is the "Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation, and Exchange Between the ROK and the DPRK." In ortner words, the agreement uses the official names of the country of the two sides. We told the South side that the use of the names of the country will not escape our brethren's misunderstanding that the South side will eventually perpetuate the division of Korea.

Also, we told the South side that the agreement has prescribed relations between the two sides, that is, relations between the North and the South, as those between two different states. This does not accord with South Korea's so-called law on North-South exchange and Paragraph 8, Article 9 of the draft agreement advanced by the South side this time. The paragraph reads that North-South trade is regarded as trade within a nation. Also the title of the South side's agreement does not accord with some agreements put forward by the South side which contain such phrases as "North-South relations are peculiar relations." Therefore, we proposed to the South side to remove the portion of the agreement which strongly smacks of two Koreas.

The second point that we indicated was the articles concerning nonaggression. In many portions of the articles of the nonaggression the South side exceptionally emphasized confidence building between the North and the South. We pointed out the fact that, disregarding the content, the South side has artificially divided confidence building and arms reduction in the articles in a bid to shelve arms reduction as an issue for the distant future.

The third point that we indicated was about Article 9 of the draft agreement advanced by the South side. The article concerns trade, travel, communications, and economic cooperation. Let met repeat again that this is Article 9 of the draft agreement of the South side. Other articles in the draft agreement are simply described with one short sentence. However, Article 9 is subdivided into some 10 clauses.

This is, of course, a matter of what method is to be employed. This issue not only does not agree with each article of the agreement as a whole, but it is also a question that can be agreed upon, without difficulty given its nature as a workable agenda item. It must be discussed at the Exchange and Cooperation Subcommittee, the establishment of which has been agreed upon by the two sides.

So, we expressed our opinion that agreement on this is well- framed, honorable, and significant in a practical way based on other issues, even without including it in the agreement.

Thus far I have explained our stand on the points raised by the South side yesterday.

At the same time, we have proposed to keep discussing a series of immediate issues, including Team Spirit, after adopting a declaration on denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, an emergency proposal, and reaching an agreement on nonaggression, reconciliation, cooperation, and exchanges between the North and South, as one document at all costs.

The South side commented on our stand. Since the spokesman for the South is expected to explain to you what the South side has expressed in detail, I will not tell you that in detail.

I would like to mention, however, the basic point of contention in the exchange of opinions that followed the keynote speeches by the two sides in today's talks.

The two sides first discussed what to do about the proposal for converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and then the nuclear inspection, a proposal placed on the agenda by the South side. The two sides exchanged a great many opinions on these important issues.

The two sides had no difference of opinion on these issues. As everything has been made public on these issues, I will not bother to repeat them.

However, I would like to note that we wanted to be assured by South Korea about the nuclear weapons deployed there, an issue so pressing and so enormous that our side wanted the South side to tell us what it knows about them; whether or not the South side has endorsed the introduction of U.S. nuclear weapons. Our side wanted to have answers to these questions. Our side also wanted to know whether the South side sought consent from the South Korean people, with whom sovereignty rests, before bringing in nuclear weapons.

This is because it does not concern just us who are the target of attacks and threats. If nuclear weapons go off in the South as a result of a mistake in their management, if nuclear weapons go off on the Korean peninsula, can we, including Prime Minister Chong Won- sik and our Premier Yon Hyong-muk and the delegates from both sides, sit here discussing issues concerning reunification?

What our side suggested was to think about this issue as members of a family, as blood relatives, and as a people, setting aside all such factors as the standoff between the authorities in the South and North and the prime ministers of the two sides.

It is out of such a frame of mind, with regret, that our prime minister put forward a few suggestions.

Regrettably, however, we did not receive any clear answers on this point.

Concerning the nuclear issue, our side suggested that if we are unable to agree on it today, the two sides may have to keep discussing it in the future. We suggested

that it be stated in the agreement that has just been reached by the two sides, that the two sides agree on this much.

However, the South side's opinion was, as expected, that nuclear inspection must be agreed to before anything else, thereby ignoring our proposal.

As a result, the two sides were unable to adopt a declaration on converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone at the fourth round of talks.

Next, the two sides discussed the single proposal put forward by the two sides in connection with the basic issue. Although the two sides failed to reach an agreement on this issue at yesterday's contact between the delegates, our side proposed to keep discussing its content at today's premiers talks and reach an agreement on this issue.

In this way, we stressed the need to reach an agreement on incorporating documents into one joint agreement at all costs during the current fourth round of talks.

However, we also have not received an appropriate response to this issue. As a result, we have not been able to reach an agreement in principle on this issue.

Finally, the two sides discussed the joint communique on the fourth round of North-South high-level talks, which I mentioned at the beginning of this press conference, and the date for the next, fifth, round of talks.

As a result of the talks on these issues going relatively easily, in a businesslike manner, and without any differences, we have agreed to publish the five-point joint communique simultaneously.

There are some slight differences in wording and particular expressions. The two sides made mutual concessions about these differences and since there were no basic differences in spirit, they have agreed to publish it separately.

We had a little problem concerning the joint communique. Our side suggested that two sides reach a complete agreement on the single document during the next round of contacts between the delegates of the two sides, thereby making it all ready before the next round of the talks, that is the fifth round.

The South side said that it was not in a position to make a firm promise on such an agreement. So the two sides were a little vague in agreeing to this issue—rather than to state that it must be done before the fifth round of talks, the two sides will try to conclude it at the earliest possible date.

Thus far, I have explained to you the outline of what has been discussed in today's talks.

South Delegation Leaves Pyongyang at End of Talks

SK2510051891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 25 (KCNA)—The South side's delegation and its party left here by train at 09:00 today after attending the fourth round of the inter-Korean high-level talks in Pyongyang.

Premier of the DPRK Administration Council Yon Hyong-muk, head of the North side's delegation, saw off the members of the South side's delegation with Chong Won-sik as its chief delegate at the Paekhwawon Guesthouse. The delegation issued a statement at the guesthouse upon leaving Pyongyang.

Expressing thanks for the hospitality during their stay in Pyongyang, the statement said the wall of division would collapse in a not distant furture.

Members of the North side's delegation accompanied the South side's delegation to see it off at Panmunjom. The South side's delegation and its party will go back to the southern area through Panmunjom this afternoon.

Crosses Panmunjom, Returns Home

SK2510044891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0400 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] The South side's delegation that participated in the fourth round of the North-South high level talks and the entourage accompanying it returned to the South side, passing through Panmunjom this afternoon.

Members of the delegation of our side to the North-South high level talks, namely, An Pyong-su, spokesman and vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF]; General Kim Kwang-chin, of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; Paek Nam-chun, secretary of the CPRF Secretariat; Kim Chong-u, vice minister of external economic affairs; Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and KPA Major General Kim Yong-chol saw off the South side delegation headed by Chong Won- sik.

NODONG SINMUN Sums Up High-Level Talks

SK2510032691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0020 GMT 25 Oct 91

[NODONG SINMUN 25 October commentary: "The Dialogue for Reunification Should Not Be Abused for Impure Purposes"]

[Text] The fourth round of North-South high level talks ended on 24 October. Our side's spokesman, in a news briefing following the talks, said that in the closed-door second-day session, discussions were held on the particulars of the agreement reached in the first-day session on combining all the documents of agreement into one document. No results worth mentioning came from the discussions, except that a joint communique was

adopted and published stipulating that the documents of agreement shall be combined into one document, that the contacts between the delegates of the two sides shall be made at an early date to arrange the texts of the proposals, and that the fifth round of talks shall be held in Seoul from 10 to 13 December, and so forth. The process of the talks clearly show once again which side truly wants the country's peace and reunification and which side spurns them.

As is known, our side—starting from a serious patriotic and nation-loving attitude and position to overcome the difficulties in the talks and make the fourth round a fruitful dialogue—expressed our principled position on the issues that should be resolved without fail between the North and the South. These issues include achieving great national unity, ending the confrontation-conscious position of the North and the South in attempting to force their ideology and system on the other side, the realization of a nuclear- free zone on the Korean peninsula, which is the most urgent task for ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula, and the adoption of the two sides' documents of agreement. Our side also offered the draft agreements containing such important and practical items as the 4 July Joint Statement.

If the documents of agreement offered by us should be adopted and published, not only a new breakthrough will undoubtedly be made in North-South dialogue but a new epochal turning point favorable to peace and the country's peaceful reunification in the future will be reached. The documents of agreement we offered are very fair and just and acceptable to anyone who truly wishes to end the state of political and military confrontation and to realize reconciliation, unity, and the country's reunification.

In the talks, our side stressed the need for resolving in the first place the issue of peace on the Korean peninsula, which is an urgent issue to be resolved between the North and the South, particularly the issue of eliminating the danger of nuclear war. Our side called upon the South side to agree to the adoption of a declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Our side also stressed that the two sides should give joy to the entire nation, which wishes the North-South high level talks to succeed, by publishing the documents of agreement incorporating only those proposals common to both sides.

However, the South side acted entirely differently from us. The South side raved about fruitful dialogue and the solution of the issue of peace in words only. In practice, the South side persistently attempted to pursue North-South confrontation and the two-Koreas plot, showing no sincerity to bring progress to the talks. This was manifest in various aspects, such as the South side attempting to return the discussion of issues to the starting point by coming up with so-called principles, which are lacking in feasibility, during the talks to discuss the adoption of the documents of agreement between the two sides. The South side suggested that the division of the country be fixed through agreement of both sides, referring to the basic framework of North-South relations and the system of coexistence. The South side showed no enthusiasm for resolving the political and military problems, and made assertions on giving priority to confidence- building and exchange, advocating systematic reunification aimed at one side's overthrowing and merging by absorption of the other.

The South side's antipeace and antireunification stance is graphically expressed in its attitude toward U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

It is global knowledge that the threat of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula is directed at the North from South Korea, where about 40,000 U.S. troops and about 1,000 units of nuclear weapons are deployed for actual combat.

If the South has at least a modicum of interest in peace on the Korean peninsula, it should, as a matter of course, call for the withdrawal of U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea before anything else and apologize to the people for having committed such antinational acts as bringing in troops of aggression and nuclear weapons from some other country for the purpose of delivering an attack against its fellow countrymen.

Nonetheless, the South side, while feigning innocence about the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the true picture of which has been clearly unveiled after the United States admitted to their presence, has called, instead, on us, who have neither the intent nor the ability to develop nuclear weapons, to agree to nuclear inspection. What a brazen-faced and provocative act this is!

Does the United States admit to the presence of the nuclear weapons in South Korea? Have the South Korean authorities endorsed the introduction of the nuclear weapons or has the United States introduced them on its own? Have they won the consent from the people with whom the sovereignty rests? When our side repeatedly pressed it for answers, the South side created an ugly scene of being at a loss to know what to do and has not so much as managed an appropriate answer. It also persistently avoided responding to our demand that a declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula be adopted.

It is clear to all that the South side, which even has no intention of withdrawing the U.S. nuclear weapons that are a serious threat to the survival of the people, has no desire for the country's peaceful reunification.

The South side's unjust position and attitude has also been fully exposed in its unreasonable acts, including its response to our call for discontinuing the Team Spirit war exercise by arguing that it is a defensive exercise designed to counter the North's military threat. The South side has called our insistence on releasing those arrested and imprisoned for visiting the North interference in internal affairs. The South side has openly said in

reply to our demand that the delegates of the National Council of University Student Representatives be allowed to return to South Korea safely that they will be punished according to law.

The process of the talks has once again laid bare for all to see that we are making every sincere effort possible for peace in the country and reunification, whereas the South side still remains unchanged in its pursuit of confrontation and division.

It is entirely due to the South side's unjust position and attitude that the North-South high-level talks have made no progress as demanded by the fellow countrymen. The South side's act of attempting to lead the successive talks for reunification to confrontation and division is an intolerable antinational and antireunification crime.

The South side should take, as a matter of course, responsibility for having disappointed the fellow countrymen, who hope for peace in the country and its reunification, by obstructing, once again, the successful advancement in the talks with empty hands, out of its antinational stand of pursuing confrontation and division. The South side should sincerely take up the talks with us, returning to the position of aspiring for peace and reunification even now.

Paper Comments on Mideast Peace Conference

SK2510101391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0956 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 25 (KCNA)—We will watch the Middle East peace conference. We hope that peace will shortly come to the Middle East, one of the world's hot-spots, along with the Korean peninsula.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a signed-commentary on the Middle East peace conference to be held in Madrid.

It is good and beneficial to the development of international relations to solve the disputes peacefully through vegotiations, the commentary stresses, and continues:

The Middle East problem is a direct product of the aggressive machinations of the imperialist forces and the Zionists in league with them to stifle the Arab people's cause of sovereignty, independence and social progress and realize their dominationist ambition for this region. Arab nations including Palestine deprived of her territory have struggled to achieve sovereignty and her territorial integrity.

But the Middle East problem has not been solved for a long time but become complicated owing to the Zionists' policy of aggression and occupation and the imperialists' intervention.

The present situation demands the immediate settlement of the Middle East problem. What is important here is to solve the Middle East problem in an all-round way on the principle of fairness on the basis of the U.N. resolution which reflects the interests and demands of the nations concerned.

It is natural that the Arab nations demand a fair solution to the Middle East problem in the interests of the people in this region.

The Middle East peace conference should contribute to realizing the desire and aspiration of the people to live independently and peacefully.

Kim Il-song Cables Cambodia's Sihanouk

SK2510110691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1021 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 25 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings on October 24 to His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, on the signing of a peace agreement on the complete settlement of the Cambodian problem at the Paris international conference on Cambodia.

The message noted that the signing of the peace agreement on Cambodia opened a bright vista for peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia.

It expressed the belief that all the factions of Cambodia under the leadership of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia headed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk would unite and implement the peace agreement so as to build a new Cambodia, unified, independent, sovereign, peaceful, non-aligned and neutral.

It also expressed the conviction that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the Korean and Cambodian peoples would expand and develop on an overall scale and wished His Royal Highness Samdech greater success in his noble cause.

Assembly Decides To Hold Elections 24 Nov

SK2410060791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0527 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang October 24 (KCNA)—A decision of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on holding elections of deputies to the city and county people's assemblies of the DPRK was published.

According to the decision dated October 23, the elections will be held on November 24, 1991.

South Korea

South Delegates Leave Pyongyang at End of Talks

SK2510005291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0042 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's delegates to the fourth inter-Korean prime ministers' talks left Pyongyang for home Friday morning.

They will retrace their arrival route and cross the border at the truce village of Panmunjom in the afternoon.

The prime ministers will meet again Dec. 10-13 in Seoul to continue their negotiations on adopting an agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, and exchange and cooperation.

Spokesmen from both delegations affirmed that the December talks will take place regardless of whether working-level contacts produce a consensus on the contents of the agreement.

The premiers of the two Koreas have been meeting since September last year without reaching an agreement. At the fourth talks, they decided on the name of the agreement and that it will contain three issues proposed by South and North Korea.

Spokesman Cites 'Big Progress' at Talks

SK2510025791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Yi Tong-pok proclaimed himself "very happy" Friday at the "big progress" made in the fourth inter-Korean high-level talks and said it was fortunate that the two Koreas had agreed to adopt a single agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, and exchange and cooperation.

In a departure statement, the South Korean spokesman said that South and North laid valuable stepping stones toward a prosperous and unified fatherland on the occasion of the Pyongyang talks even though they failed to reach full agreement on the contents of the agreement.

"We now are returning home with the hope and conviction that the Korean people, who lived the past century in agony and trial, will be able to realize peaceful unification by unfolding a new era of reconciliation and cooperation," he said.

"What we should clearly recognize at this point is that peace between the two sides can be guaranteed not just by the agreement itself but by a firm will to fulfill the agreement.

"One cannot discuss peace and peaceful unification while slandering the other party and developing nuclear weapons on the side," Yi said.

He said the delegates of the two sides should not fail to provide a historic turning point to put an end to the era of distrust and confrontation.

Prime Minister Says 'Breakthrough' Achieved

SK2510085491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, on his way home from Pyongyang, said he was relieved that a breakthrough was achieved in his talks with the prime minister of North Korea.

Chong and his party arrived at Tongilgak in the Northern section of the truce village around 12:50 p.m. on their way home from Pyongyang, where they stayed three nights.

An Pyong-su, a North Korean delegate here to see off the Southern delegates, told Chong that the fourth meeting had dispelled the people's disappointment over the three previous failures to produce an agreement.

After a 10-minute chat with the Northern delegates, the Southern delegates crossed the border in eight Mercedes-Benz cars supplied by North Korea.

Chong and the six other delegates were welcomed by South Korean officials, including government administration Minister Yi Yun-tak, at Peace House in the Southern section of Panmunjom.

The prime minister said he felt 10 days had passed since he crossed the border into North Korea four days earlier.

Chong fled North Korea, where he was born, 45 years ago.

South Korean spokesman Yi Tong-pok said he returned with a firm conviction that an era of peace was coming to the Korean peninsula.

South and North Korea's agreement to adopt a single agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and exchange and cooperation was a "forward-looking result," he said.

Vice Unification Minister Song Han-ho said, however, that the prospects for the fifth meeting were bleak because of the deep differences on various matters. He said that he expected a working-level contact to prepare for the fifth talks to be held in mid- November.

The delegates left Panmunjom around 2 p.m. and headed for the presidential mansion to report to President No Tae-u on the Pyongyang talks.

—Shortly before leaving Pyongyang for home, Prime Minister Chong Won-sik spent some 20 minutes with his North Korean counterpart, Yon Hyon-muk, at the guest house Friday.

The atmosphere was cordial, perhaps because the two sides reached agreement the previous day.

"Although my visit lasted only three nights and four days," Chong said, "I feel you are an old friend."

"In every conference, it is important to build mutual trust first," Chong added. "In that respect, we have produced a fruitful result."

"The atmosphere at last night's banquet was also excellent," Yon said.

When Yon said, "let's hope that the fifth conference will work out fine," Chong replied: "Don't they say 'well begun is half done'? At the fifth conference, we will just sign the document and spend the rest of time sightseeing."

—Leaving Pyongyang at 9 a.m. Friday, Chong held talks with An aboard the special train which arrived in Kaesong at 12:40 p.m.

Asked by reporters how he felt about his talks in Pyongyang, Chong said, "although we could not settle the question of reconciliation, non-aggression and exchanges, we made a breakthrough for the talks that had been deadlocked in last three meetings."

"We have made a receptacle. The question now [is] what we are going to put in it," Chong said. "In any case, with that accomplishment, I am returning to Seoul with a light heart."

An said, "Now, the point of attention shifts from the fourth conference to the fifth on which everything depends. Regardless of the outcome of working-level conferences, the fifth conference will have to take place in order to resolve any remaining problems, An said.

"Can two big persons (prime ministers) go back and forth between Seoul and Pyongyang empty-handed?" An asked, adding: "The prime ministers are obviously thinking about putting their stamps of approval (on the document worked out) at preliminary conferences."

No Tae-u Urges Flexibility at Next Talks

SK2510134791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1308 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u called on South Korean delegates to the just-ended high-level talks with North Korea Friday to take a more flexible attitude in the fifth round slated for Dec. 10.

Welcoming Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and other delegates at Chongwadae, No said they should exert the best efforts to reach "a detailed and practical" agreement with North Korea in the fifth round of talks in Seoul.

He said the Southern delegates should make such efforts at their working-level contacts at the truce village of Panmunjom to take place before the Dec. 10 talks.

Meeting later with Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of his Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], the chief executive said the inter-Korean dialogue has now entered the right path and that the DLP should actively engage in talks with opposition parties and various segments of the society to jointly cope with inter-Korean issues.

Prime Minister Notes 'Real Changes' in North

SK2510135091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1315 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Chong Won-sik said Friday he could sense real changes occuring in North Korea during the just-ended high-level talks in Pyongyang.

In a nightly interview with the Korea Broadcasting System, Chong said the two Koreas could work out the title and rough outline of an agreement "as our progressive attitude and North Korea's changes met halfway."

He said North Koreans responded sensitively about the German-style unification and that his delegation tried to let them drop suspicions about such form of unification by stressing Seoul's formula based on restoration of national identity.

"Our hasty demand for exchange and cooperation will only add to the burden on North Korea. It is important that we seek to build confidence through gradual exchanges."

He said he was "neither optimistic nor pessimistic" about the fifth round of high-level talks slated for Dec. 10. "I will do my best to create concrete agreement at the forum."

High-Level Nuclear Talks Scheduled With U.S.

SK2510143691 Seoul YONHAP in English 1311 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States will hold high-level diplomatic consultations in Washington Oct. 30 on North Korea's nuclear development and other issues, a Korean Government source said Friday.

Focus of the consultations will be U.S. President George Bush's Sept. 27 announcement on nuclear reduction and its after effects, further phase-out of U.S. Forces in Korea, and joint efforts to deter North Korea's nuclear development, the source said.

Assistant Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Chang Man-sun will lead the Korean delegation. Richard Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and the Pacific, will be the chief U.S. delegate.

The source said the senior diplomats would coordinate agenda items for the Dec. 1 summit between Presidents No Tae-u and Bush, would review the outcome of the fourth round of inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, and discuss future directions.

On his way to Washington, Chang will visit Ottawa to discuss with Canadian officials bilateral cooperation at the third ministerial conference of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation in Seoul next month.

Corporations Plan To Open New Soviet Offices

SK2410025491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0153 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—Samsung Corp., Hyundai Corp. and Lucky-Goldstar International Corp. are seeking to establish branch offices in the Soviet cities of St. Petersburg, Khabarovsk and Vladivostok within a year, business sources said Thursday.

Their moves to construct a bridgehead in Khabarovsk and Vladivostok are understood to be aimed at participating in development projects in Siberia and the Tuman River area, the sources said.

Samsung has sent a field survey team to various areas of the Soviet Union once or twice a month to diversify its outlets from Russia to Kazakhstan and other areas as the republics move closer toward autonomy.

Hyundai, the first Korean enterprise to take part in a Siberian forestry project, plans to establish a branch office in Vladivostok and is looking for a site and staff.

Lucky-Goldstar is considering opening a branch office in the Soviet Far East and sent a team headed by a company vice president to the Soviet Union to conduct a market survey.

Sports Minister Describes Talks in Vietnam

SK2410020391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean Sports and Youth Minister Pak Chol-on, speaking by telephone from Vietnam, said Wednesday that the two countries were likely to normalize relations soon.

Pak said that he and Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh agreed on the need to normalize relations soon during 90 minutes of talks Wednesday afternoon.

Often described as the architect of President No Tae-u's northern policy aimed at improving relations with communist countries, Pak is the first South Korean cabinet minister to visit Hanoi since the Vietnam war.

Pak said Khanh told him that his visit would serve as epochal momentum in advancing normalization of Seoul-Hanoi relations.

Pak said he told Khanh that the two countries should clear away the dregs of the cold war at the earliest possible date for co- prosperity in the Asia-Pacific era in the 21st Century and the Vietnamese deputy premier expressed unreserved sympathy.

Pak and Khanh exchanged views on economic cooperation, including Korea's participation in the development of oil wells in Vietnam. Khanh expressed his wish that Korea would actively take part in modernization of the communications network in his country.

Pak called on Khanh to eliminate barriers that hinder South Korean business activities in Vietnam and Khanh pledged that he would make efforts to correct the situation despite the absence of formal ties.

The two also discussed establishment of trade offices.

Pak invited Khanh to visit Seoul and Khanh said he would make the trip at an appropriate time because it would be beneficial to his government.

The Pak-Khanh talks were attended by Choe Man-yip, vice chairman of the Korea Olympic Committee, and Pak's counterpart in Vietnam, Ta Quang Chien, who also is chairman of the Vietnamese Olympic Committee.

Pak and Quang Chien later signed a sports agreement and exchanged a memorandum on sports cooperation for next year.

Seoul will send athletes to soccer, table tennis, shooting and marathon competitions in Vietnam next year. The two ministers also agreed on Korea's dispatch of taekwondo instructors and the training of Vietnamese taekwondoists in Korea.

The two ministers decided to promote exchanges of youths, particularly in the fields of culture and arts.

Pak was the first South Korean cabinet minister to lay a wreath at the tomb of Ho Chi Minh.

Mongolian President Ochirbat Departs After Visit

SK2510062791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0558 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat left Seoul on Friday morning after a four-day official visit.

Ochirbat, the first Mongolian head of state to visit here, laid a cornerstone for stronger ties between the two countries during his stay here.

Until recently, Mongolia kept close relationship with South Korea's archrival North Korea.

ROK, Canada Sign Extradition Treaty

SK2510071291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Canada signed an extradition treaty on Friday enabling them to claim fugitives wanted in their countries for crimes punishable by an imprisonment of one year or more.

Under the treaty, those who have conspired to kill the heads of state or their families or chief executives and their families and terrorists will be extradited. But other political offenders are not the subject of extradition.

The two countries have decided not to request in principle the extradition of their nationals who have committed crimes in the other's country.

They have also agreed to extradite economic and financial criminals through diplomatic channels.

By designating economic and financial criminals as the extraditable fugitives, Korea has established a legal basis for the extradition of its economic criminals seeking a safe heaven in Canada, a Foreign Ministry Official said.

ROK, Sudan Initial Aviation Accord

SK2510071391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Sudan initialed an aviation accord Friday allowing each other to launch civil air services.

The agreement regulates the designation of plural airline companies and the exemption of duties on aircraft maintenance, fuel and lubricants, and grants airlines the right to have a branch and remit home their operating profits.

The accord was signed by Kim Yong-kyu, the Foreign Ministry's international trade director, and Sudanese Ambassador 'Abdallah Ahmad al-Bashir.

PRC 'Did Not Promise' Economic Aid to North

SK2510093691 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 25 Oct 91 p 2

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] Nobuo Matsunaga, former Japanese ambassador to the United States, revealed on 24 October that Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen confirmed that the Chinese Government did not promise economic aid when North Korean President Kim Il-song visited China early this month.

Former Ambassador Matsunaga mentioned Qian Qichen's comment while he was explaining PRC-DPRK relations at a symposium in Tokyo on the results of his visit to China in mid-October.

He said Minister Qian commented on President Kim's visit to China and revealed: "Though North Korea asked for economic aid from China, as its relations with the Soviet Union are getting cold, China did not promise economic aid, including oil."

North May Allow South Investment in Tuman Zone

SK2510012791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0058 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—North Korea suggested Thursday it might let South Korea invest in a special economic zone planned for the Tuman River estuary.

"We have not announced restrictions on investment in the Tuman River estuary development project, and South Korea and its enterprises may hope (for participation)," Kim Chong-u, vice external economic affairs minister, told reporters.

North Korea would cooperate with China in developing the Tuman estuary as the project was tied to China's port development plan in a meeting of the United Nations Development Program on Monday [21 October] in Pyongyang, Kim said.

South Korea has close economic relations with China.

North Korea was preparing to promote economic cooperation with the South, but it was not the time to announce it, said Kim, a delegate to the inter-Korean high-level talks.

North Korea fully recognized the difference between inter-Korean trade and international trade, noting Seoul's exemption of tariffs on trade with the North and establishment of a special fund for it, he said.

North Korea was willing to accept economic cooperation with Japan even before negotiations on normalization of bilateral relations were settled, he said.

But inter-Korean economic cooperation would be made in accordance with the progress of the inter-Korean high-level talks, Kim said.

'National Power' 19 Percent Compared to U.S.

SK2310031991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0140 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 23 (YONHAP)—The national power of South Korea is 19 percent that of the United States, 26 percent that of the Soviet Union and 37 percent that of Japan, a private think tank said Wednesday.

The national power of the United States, however, is 1.4 times that of the Soviet Union, two times that of Japan and three times that of Italy, the Daewoo Research Institute said.

Daewoo based its evaluation on 1989 data from 10 nations: Korea, the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan, Germany, Great Britain, France, Italy, Canada and China.

Factors considered in the evaluation were survival capability (including productivity and finance), international

contributions (including people, resources and economy) and influence over other nations (including military and diplomatic).

Based on a rating for the United States of 100, Daewoo ranked the Soviet Union at 71.7, Japan at 50.7, France at 49.7, Britain at 43.7, Germany at 42.3, Canada and China at 35, Italy at 32 and Korea at 18.7.

Compared with assessments by foreign institutes, Daewoo's estimate points to growing American power following political changes in the Soviet Union.

Daewoo forecast unification would boost Korean power to 20.5 percent of U.S. power, up 1.5 percentage points. This compares with 1.1 percentage points for German unification.

Japan was projected to move up from third spot to second in the year 2000, trading places with the Soviet Union. Japan was the most probable threat to Korea in the next decade if it continued its military buildup, Daewoo said.

Court Rules Sanomaeng 'Anti-State Organization'

SK2210101191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0939 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—The Supreme Court publicly defined "Sanomaeng" or the Socialist Workers' Alliance in South Korea, as an anti-state organization Tuesday.

The highest court upheld the lower courts' decisions in giving eight-year jailterm to Yun Chong-tok, 29, indicted of violating the National Security Law as an active member of Sanomaeng.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Praises Signing of Cambodian Accord

BK2410094991 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Finally the world is heaving sigh of relief over the Cambodian issue. After 21 long and bitter years of conflict which included a civil war over the past 20 years, the representatives of the former warring factions—the Phnom Penh regime, communist Khmer Rouge and the two non-communist groups, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the Sihanoukists—put their signatures to a peace treaty in Paris yesterday.

With this historic event successfully completed, the United Nations will begin the biggest and most complex operation in its history.

Under the accord the peace-keeping force known as the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia or UNTAC will move in to supervise the demobilization of the forces that had been at war. Land mines will have to be cleared. Then the process towards the holding of free and fair elections will commence.

The UN and all the countries directly or indirectly involved in the peace process should be commended for their relentless efforts towards bringing the Cambodian issue to a successful conclusion. ASEAN had been in the forefront of this campaign as part of its bid to make Southeast Asia a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality or ZOPFAN. Its efforts and that of others have borne fruit. Now it will be up to the Cambodians and the leaders of the four factions to set their minds firmly on the process of national reconciliation. We can only hope that the peace treaty will be a durable one and not short-lived. Much will depend on the attitudes of the Hun Sen government and the Khmer Rouge which had not seen eye to eye on some of the issues raised during the peace negotiations. Some even have raised doubts as to whether the Khmer Rouge will actively participate in the peace process once it sets up its office in the Cambodian capital.

One concerning factor is the presence and active involvement of Prince Norodom Sihanouk—the former head of state who now heads the Supreme National Council, SNC, and who is fit to resume its former position once elections are held. His wisdom, good judgment, and charisma will play a crucial role in charting the course for Cambodia's future.

Now that the stage has been set, it is time to put aside past differences, rivalries, and animosities and work towards an era of truth using full democracy in a land that has been ravaged and impoverished through years of warfare and bloodshed. This needs the full commitment of all factions and groups concerned. As Prince Sihanouk said at the recent UN General Assembly, the road leading Cambodians to a future of national reconciliation is still long, painful, and full of obstacles.

It is also full of hope and desire to see Cambodia rejoining the place it deserves in the family of nations and to progress as desired. The UN secretary general, in the wake of the signing of the peace treaty, has called for human and financial resources to assist Cambodia in its forthcoming effort towards political and economic development.

Malaysians everywhere will no doubt heed this urgent call. ASEAN for sure will not be found wanting in this respect. The concept of ZOPFAN will soon become a reality after all.

Minister Criticizes Delay in World Climate Talks

BK2410115491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1028 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 24 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysia Thursday blamed developed countries for slow progress in international efforts to formulate a global strategy to address the issues of climate change.

Science, Technology and Environment Minister Law Hieng Ding said no concrete conclusions had been made although three rounds of negotiations had been held on the United Nations framework conventions on climate change.

The reluctance by developed countries to stabilise and limit carbon dioxide pollution in the atmosphere had contributed to the slow progress of the talks, he said when opening a regional workshop on carbon cycle and global climate change, here.

The negotiations should zero in on what the commitments of the developed countries should be in limiting and reducing greenhouse emissions, particularly carbon dioxide, he said.

Law said many developed countries which championed the protection and conservation of tropical forests, as though they were the root of global warming, did not themselves take drastic domestic measures to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases which he cited as the actual source of the problem.

Deputy Prime Minister on Singapore's Island Claim

BK2510101691 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Deputy Minister Minister Ghafar Baba has said that Batu Putih island, which Singapore is laying claim to, belongs to Malaysia. Nevertheless, he said Malaysia will hold consultations with the republic to resolve the matter amicably.

Speaking at a gathering in Desaru, Johor, Mr. Ghafar said the process of consultations may take a long time.

Relations With Australia Now 'Back to Normal'

BK1810071191 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 18 Oct 91

[Text] The Malaysian-Australian relations are back to normal. This followed a pledge by the Australian Government to publicly dissociate itself from any false allegations made by the country's media against Malaysia. In the same way, the Malaysian Government will also publicly dissociate itself if the country's media tells lies about Australia.

The patching-up of relations, which have been strained for some time, was achieved during a one-hour meeting between Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and his Australian counterpart Bob Hawke in Harare. Both leaders are in the Zimbabwean capital to attend the Commonwealth heads of government meeting.

Answering questions by newsmen later, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said that a similar assurance was given by the Australian foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, during his recent visit to Kuala Lumpur. But, it was never fulfilled. Due to this, Malaysia remained silent on the matter.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia believes in press freedom. But sometimes the press becomes irresponsible and tells lies. The government cannot stop them but it should openly say it is a lie and that it does not agree with it.

Minister on Country's Inflation Rate

BK2410043291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0356 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Kuala lumpur, Oct 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The rate of inflation in Malaysia has been rising in the last four years, but is still the lowest in the world, Deputy Finance Minister, Abdul Ghani Othman said Thursday.

This was in comparison with the inflation rates in other ASEAN countries like Indonesian (9 per cent), The Philippines (16 per cent), Singapore (4 per cent) and Thailand (6 per cent).

Abdul Ghani said that he forecast the inflation rate for the whole of this year at 4.5 per cent.

He added the causes were the steady economic growth, lack of skilled labour, shortage of certain goods and the higher prices of imported goods.

MP Warns Against Declining Chinese Population

BK2410132591 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Oct 91 p 19

[Text] The Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs), Mr Ong Ka Ting, has said the Chinese in Malaysia need to be aware of the declining Chinese population in the country, according to the SIN CHEW JIT POH [local Chinese daily] yesterday.

He was quoted as saying that the proportion of Chinese Malaysians might drop to 20 per cent from the present 30 per cent in 50 year's time.

Mr Ong, who is MP for Pontian, said that the Chinese should sit down and work out a strategy to tackle the problem.

The report said that Mr Ong did not suggest how the Chinese community could tackle the problem except to say that they should stay united.

Speaking at the opening of a Chinese school in Pontian on Monday, he recalled that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed had said that he expected Malaysia's population to grow to 70 million in the year 2100.

However, Mr Ong felt that because of Malaysia's population growth pattern over the past few years, the target of 70 million population would be achieved by the year 2040—60 years ahead of the plan.

By then, he said, the proportion of Chinese would have dropped to 20 per cent of the total population.

"If the Chinese community remains emotional and merely issues statements to criticise the government and not resolve its problems with a consultative spirit, it will not be able to achieve anything," he was quoted as saying.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Hails Paris Accord Signing

BK2510102991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Speech by Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, at the meeting in Phnom Penh on 24 October to mark the signing of the peace accord in Paris—recorded]

[Text] My repects to the revered clergy and the presidium; dear excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen—the diplomatic corps—international guests, and compatriots: On the solemn day of Cambodia's history, on behalf of the the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the Cambodian Government and people, we are extremely happy to welcome and applaud the signing of the peace accord on a settlement of the Cambodian problem, which was solemnly held in Paris, France on 23 October 1991. This historic event could take place thanks to the active effort of all Cambodian factions, of the Cambodian people as a whole, and to the invaluable contributions of the international community, especially to the efforts by the CPP and the State of Cambodia Government to surmount all manner of obstacles through the implementation of national unification policy for the sake of peace and national reunification in Cambodia. This will create new conditions for the Cambodian people to jointly rebuild, develop, and salvage

our beloved motherland of Angkor from suffering and tragedy which have dragged on for two decades, thereby allowing Cambodia to again find its appropriate place in the international arena.

Dear excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: After nearly four years of negotiations with difficulties at a great many forums, a peace accord has taken shape, allowing the Cambodian people to see the ray of peace and national unification. Since 1987, the State of Cambodia Government has put forth a national unification policy and has tried with all possible means to negotiate with the other Cambodian side with a view to solving the internal national conflict. For instance in December 1987, His Excellency Hun Sen held a meeting with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in [words indistinct], France at which a joint communique was issued saying they agreed in principle that the Cambodian conflict should be settled by the Cambodian people themselves.

On 20-21 January 1988 in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France, a meeting between Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and His Excellency Hun Sen was held to discuss the timeframe of the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops, which is linked to the cessation of foreign military aid. With the endeavor of the party and the government of the State of Cambodia, in December 1988 a summit meeting among His Excellency Hun Sen, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and His Excellency Son Sann was held in Fere-en-Tardenois at which they agreed to set up a working commission. The effort to enhance the process of resolving the Cambodian problem had an impact on the international community. Especially it motivated the regional countries—including the six ASEAN states, Vietnam, and Laos—to actively join the first and second meetings in Jakarta. The meetings agreed on two key issues which linked to a settlement of the Cambodian problem the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia and the prevention of the recurrence of the disaster which occurred between 1975 and 1978.

Implementing national reunification and peace-loving spirit, the State of Cambodia unilaterally announced the gradual withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia beginning from 1982 until 1989—the withdrawal was, however, completed 15 months before the scheduled timeframe. This is our great concession.

Although faced with all manner of difficulties, the process on the track of a solution to the Cambodian problem has continued to make headway, and in August 1989, an international conference on Cambodia was held in Paris with the participation of the delegates from 19 countries. Gradually, the parties and countries concerned intensified their talks so as to promote the Cambodian peace process. The meetings in Jakarta, Bangkok, and Tokyo achieved a consensus on the international and internal aspects of the Cambodian problem, creating an atmosphere of voluntary cease-fire and setting up a Supreme National Council of Cambodia, which is representing Cambodia's sovereignty. Along with this, on 24 November 1989, the Australian foreign minister, His Excellency Gareth Evans, initiated a draft peace plan on Cambodia to enhance the role of the United Nations.

Between 1990 and 1991, the UN Security Council's five permanent members energetically strived to map out a framework document for a global solution to the Cambodian problem. Despite obstacles and difficulties created by the other Cambodian side, the party and government of the State of Cambodia and the Cambodian people throughout the country showed goodwill by making maximal concessions with a view to achieving an overall political settlement for the Cambodian problem. And lately, thanks to the development of the concrete situation in the country and the world, great positive results of the process of seeking peace for Cambodia have been achieved at the first Phatthaya meeting, the Beijing meeting, the second Phatthaya meeting, and the recent meeting in New York, bringing about the signing of the historic peace accord for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem in Paris on 23 October 1991. This aims to end the conflict in Cambodia, thereby bringing about peace and national unification which are the time-honored sacred aspiration of the CPP and the entire Cambodian people.

Dear excellencies, ladies, gentlemen, and compatriots: The solution for the Cambodian motherland has already been achieved. The ray of peace, which is approaching the land of Angkor and the Cambodian people, is the earnest desire of the CPP, the State of Cambodia government, and every Cambodian citizen in the interior of the country and overseas to end the war and banish poverty. The latest result is the fruit of the unforgettable valuable sacrifices that our cadres, combatants, intellectuals, Buddhist monks, workers, employees, and people have made for almost 13 years under the leadership of the CPP for the cause of the national survival and mending the nation's internal rift.

On this solemn occasion, the meeting wishes to express the warmest thanks to the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which have persistently and painstakingly fulfilled their commitment to promote the Cambodian peace process in order to achieve the accord. The meeting also wishes to profoundly thank the [Paris International Conference] cochairmen for their full support and assistance in achieving this positive outcome. Moreover, the meeting wishes to thank the governments of the Republic of France, Australia, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Republic of Indonesia, and Japan as well as the governments of other countries, international organizations, and progressive people the world over for their sympathies for the correct and just cause of the Cambodian people and their active support and assistance in the search for a global political solution to the Cambodian problem.

In line with the external and internal policy of the CPP political platform recently adopted by the party extraordinary congress, the CPP will continue to firmly adhere to the goodwill for peace and the spirit of national

unification with the aim of bringing about genuine security, peace, freedom, and democracy.

On this occasion, the Cambodian people and government pledge to energetically respect the accord signed by the four Cambodian parties in Paris on 23 October 1991. The accord, consisting of an important global document with five annexes—including the implementation of the cease-fire, cessation of foreign military aid, the repatriation of refugees, elections, and protection of human rights—is in connection with the duty of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia called UNTAC. In sum, the CPP, the State of Cambodia Government, and the entire Cambodian people vow to do whatever they can to make the implementation of the accord a success, thereby bringing about peace and national unification in Cambodia.

We would like to appeal to other Cambodian parties to scrupulously respect and abide by the peace accord as the State of Cambodia side does so as to maintain the environment of national solidarity and unification and put an end to all hostilities and grudges against their own nation. This is to create a neutral atmosphere for the Cambodian people to fully exert their rights to self-determination in the election of a constituent assembly. We wish to call on all the political parties to participate in the future elections to faithfully implement the accord. And our meeting hopes that all the signatories of the Paris peace accord will strive to effectively make the implementation of the accord a success.

In conclusion, our meeting hopes that—with all the Cambodian parties' national unification spirit; the wholehearted sympathies of the international community, the United Nations, and all the countries concerned for the cause of peace and reconstruction and development of Cambodia, and the just mediating role of the UNTAC—the peace accord on Cambodia will be correctly respected with maximum effectiveness, contributing to steering Cambodia's ship toward the shore of peace without fail in the near future.

We would like to wish the clergy, the compatriots, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen all the best. Thank you.

Chea Sim on Role of UN Supervisory Body

BK2410153191 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 24—Chea Sim, president of the Party of the Cambodian People and chairman of the Cambodian National Assembly, has rejected a rumour that the United Nations and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) will replace the administration of the State of Cambodia at present.

In an interview on Oct. 24 with correspondent of the Vietnamese youth paper "THANH NIEN VIETNAM" and VIETNAM NEW AGENCY in Phnom Penh, President Chea Sim added: "We want to make clear that UNTAC is only a temporary authority with the task of supervising elections, the implementation of the peace agreement and the five new ministries in Cambodia. The United Nations should respect the rights to self-determination of the Cambodian people".

Asked about the results of the just-concluded 4th Congress of the Party of the Cambodian People, President Chea Sim said that on the political aspect, the party's platform has been changed in a democratic direction and in line with the realities in Cambodia and he wish of the Cambodian people as well. "In fact, the contents of the new party platform will strengthen the friendship, the solidarity and cooperation between the two nations, Vietnam and Cambodia", he added.

Conference Delegates Discuss Reconstruction Aid

BK2410085591 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0504 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 24—With a treaty to end 21 years of war ready for signing Wendesday, the 19 countries involved in the Cambodian peace process have turned their efforts to rebuilding the war-ravaged country, reports AFP [AGENCE FRANCE- PRESSE].

Japan took the lead in attempting to put Cambodia—one of the world's poorest countries—back on its feet, with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama announcing Tuesday that his country was planning an international conference to discuss the issue.

Nakayama proposed the meeting, to be held at foreign ministers level, during talks with his French conterpart Roland Dumas—one of a series of bilateral discussions here on Cambodia's economic and financial future.

Dumas, a co-host of the Paris conference on Cambodia along with his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas, was guardedly optimistic about the future of Cambodia, but warned that "many questions still persist."

Alatas sounded a similar note of caution, saying: "I hope that after the signature, everyone will remain just as committed and engaged as they are now."

Alatas also confirmed that the Khmer Rouge had made it clear they would not forcibly repatriate refugees from camps along the Thai border to areas of Cambodia under their control.

Delegation heads discussed financial questions—including contributions to the biggest U.N. peacekeeping mission yet undertaken— and the various forms of assistance to revive Cambodia's moribund economy after more than two decades of conflict, including 13 years of civil war.

French officials and members of the entourage of the future Cambodian president, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, put the final touches on a 20-million-franc (3.4-million-dollar) aid package for emergency food, irrigation and power, sources close to the conference said.

An indication of complications to come: the Khmer Rouge and the nationalist followers of Son Sann—the two other factions in the guerrilla resistance led by Prince Sihanouk—criticized the aid, saying it would go mainly to Phnom Penh and the administration of Premier Hun Sen, who has thrown his full support behind the prince, sources in Paris said.

Dumas warned that despite the hard-fought agreement, there were many other problems to come, "such as the organizing matter of the refugees."

He was referring to some 350,000 Cambodians living in camps along the Thai border, whose repatriation will be one of the thorniest issues the United Nations will face in trying to bring peace to the Southeast Asian country.

"But at least," Dumas continued, "we have it sown on paper now.... In earlier times, it would have immediately blown the lid off (the talks). This time, everyone made an effort to find a convenient solution."

Reports that the Khmer Rouge were preparing to move large numbers of the refugees into territory under their control kept treaty-drafters busy until the very end.

Prince Sihanouk told AFP Tuesday night that the Khmer Rouge had promised him they would not repeat their attempt, saying they had acted only because "the refugees wanted to immediately return to Cambodian."

The Marxist group, which controls large patches of rural Cambodia and is militarily the strongest of the three resistance is the stumbling block to Cambodian peace.

But, Dumas said, "an agreement excluding the Khmer Rouge would have meant a speedy resumption of the conflict, whereas a cease-fire has been more or less holding since July, despite reports Tuesday and Wednesday of fighting between government and guerrilla forces near the Thai border.

"In any case," Dumas said, "excluding (the Khmer Rouge) would have meant excluding the participation in the peace process of China, which holds one of the keys to the Cambodian problem."

In addition to Nakayama and Alatas, Dumas on Tuesday met Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, as well as his counterparts from Vietnam, the Philippines and China, while Prince Sihanouk held talks with his erstwhile rival, Hun Sen, and British, Chinese, Japanese and Thai officials.

Hun Sen also met Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin, and later addressed members of France's Khmer community at the International Diplomatic Institute in Paris.

Sources close to the premier said he would go to Beijing next month to accompany Prince Norodom back to Phnom Penh when the former ruler returns to his homeland on November 14, for the first time in 12 years. The peace treaty—three agreements and a final act in Chinese, English, French, Khmer and Russian—will be signed late Wednesday after speeches by French President Francois Mitterrand, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and most of the heads of delegation of the 19 countries involved.

Paris TV Shows Signing of Peace Agreement

LD2310205591 Paris Antenne-2 Television Network in French 1900 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Excerpt] For a few hours this afternoon Paris was the diplomatic capital of the planet with the formal signing of the agreements on the reestablishment of peace in Cambodia in the presence of the UN secretary general, and the foreign ministers of 18 countries, including the United States, the USSR, and China, under the chairmanship of Francois Mitterrand, who expressed the view that this agreement turned the page on a dark chapter in the history of this country. Bernard Lebrun:

[Begin video recording] [Lebrun] At France's initiative, after two years, two months and 25 days of negotiation, Cambodia put an end to 50 years of war in this region of the world at 1930 today, Wednesday, at the conference center in Avenue Kleber, where the peace agreement on Vietnam was signed. [video shows Dumas, Baker, and Sihanouk signing papers]

[Perez de Cuellar] (?As planned), the Security Council ratifies the Paris agreements. The organization will be entrusted with keeping watch over their implementation by deploying in Cambodia an operation which will probably be the largest and the most complex in the history of the United Nations.

[Mitterrand] From today the Khmer people regain the full control of their destiny. It is for them alone to determine their political future and no one will accept them experiencing further suffering. The Cambodians, I believe I can say this on your behalf, aspire to peace with all their strength [camera cuts to shot of Sihanouk nodding agreement], which requires the abandonment of any spirit of revenge, which would be just as dangerous as forgetfulness, as forgetfulness of history and its tragedies.

[Sihanouk] After years of war and destruction in Cambodia it is a pleasure and an honor for me to be in Paris once again and to take part in this historic ceremony which is going to put an end to the suffering and the misfortunes of our people, of my people. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Peace Agreement 'Largely Unnoticed' in Phnom Penh

BK2410131191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1248 GMT 24 Oct 91

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 24 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government gathered about 50,000 people Thursday to

celebrate the signing of a peace treaty in Paris, but the peace went largely unnoticed by the rest of the population here.

"Peace is imminent," National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim told a rally assembled on a picturesque lawn between the Royal Palace and the Tonle Sap River.

"This is not a temporary settlement," he said. "It means the end of fighting and an end of support (to the rebels) from enemy countries." But general opinion was more sceptical. Cambodians interviewed at random who knew about the peace treaty were few, and among them there was none who believed it would bring true peace.

"Politicians are all liars," said So Siehhoeum, a 45-year-old woman who used to work for a French company before the Khmer Rouge took power in 1975.

"I'll believe it only after Prince (Norodom) Sihanouk arrives," she said. "When the prince comes back, everything will be all right again."

This country has been at war for nearly two decades and has spent the last 13 years embroiled in a civil war that pitted Prince Sihanouk, the Khmer Rouge and a third group against the Vietnamese- backed government here. The peace treaty officially ends the civil war and places Cambodia under the supervision of the United Nations until elections in 1993.

Few here believe the transition to peace will be easy.

"Between paper and deed there is a very big distance," said another Cambodian who did not want to be identified.

Prime Minister Hun Sen sounded an optimistic note in an address broadcast on Cambodian radio.

From Paris, where he attended the signing of the settlement, Hun Sen called on Cambodians to contribute "to jointly restoring peace and the national economy."

"What remains to be done is to effectively implement the accord in order to arrive at the ultimate goal, which is free, democratic and just elections, organized and supervised by the United Nations," he said.

The treaty "represents a very good opportunity for the Cambodian people to end a war that has dragged on for over 20 years and for Cambodia to reach a new stage in which national unification and peace are achieved," he said.

But even as the peace was being signed in Paris, one faction was reporting fighting in the countryside.

The military wing of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) accused the Phnom Penh government of intensifying its attacks in rebel-held areas of northwest Cambodia. It called the attacks an 11th-hour bid to seize territory at the very moment a peace treaty was being signed.

The KPNLF is headed by former Cambodian premier Son Sann, but military commanders have been at odds with their civilian leader.

They have protested against not being represented in Cambodia's interim authority, the Supreme National Council, which was signing the treaty in Paris.

Editorial Welcomes Accord as 'Turning Point'

BK2510094591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Oct 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "The Turning Point in Building Peace and National Reconciliation in Cambodia"]

[Text] The agreement on an overall solution to the Cambodian conflict was solemnly signed at the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] on 23 October amidst the warm welcome and great joy of Cambodian people and the peace- and democracy-loving people across the world.

This is a significant political event nationally and internationally. It is [words indistinct] war for over 20 years.

The accomplishment of this peace aggreement is a great success of the correct, lively, and wise policy of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the goodwilled, sincere, and just stance of the State of Cambodia which has made great sacrifices and concessions and strived arduously, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles in the negotiation that has proceeded for nearly four years. for peace and national reconciliation in response to the genuine aspirations and interests of the Cambodian people.

This Cambodian peace aggreement is the light of peace that exists on paper only. The implementation of the points in the agreement—such as the preparations for the transition under the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia and the Cambodian Supreme National Council; the withdrawal of foreign troops; the cease-fire verification and cessation of arms aid; the holding of the elections for the Cambodian people to freely exercise their right to self- determination to decide their own future; the observance of human rights as defined in the declaration on human rights and all international agreements related to human rights; the problem of refugees and displaced persons; and the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia—will be difficult and complicated. It is a key issue that needs much time and the sincere participation of all parties concerned, not just through the words on paper but through practice.

To achieve genuine peace, from the signing of the agreement to the elections and after, our people must turn the CPP's political program into a reality in our society, enhance spirit of patriotism and sense of responsibility for our national destiny and people, defend all the legitimate rights and everything we have achieved

during the past nearly 13 years, and resolutely strive to avoid the recurrence of the past catastrophe.

As those who desire to achieve peace so as to restore and rebuild our beloved nation towards prosperity, our people are ready to take part in implementing this agreement and demand that the other Cambodian side do likewise.

All violations and attempts to obstruct the implementation of the agreement must be punished and held responsible before history and mankind.

The Cambodian people thank and highly appreciate the great efforts and support of the PICC member countries, PICC cochairmen, five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and the UN secretary general. We would like to call on them to further participate in and take measures for the correct and just implementation of the agreement to bring about genuine peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia, in contribution to peace, freedom, stability, and cooperation in this region and elsewhere across the world.

Chea Sim Meets Former U.S. Senator Dick Clark

BK2510073891 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0433 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 25—Chea Sim, president of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], and Dick Clark, head of a delegation of Aspen Institute, expressed their optimism over the development of Cambodia-U.S. relations after the signing of the peace agreement in Paris.

Chea Sim informed the American delegation in a reception in Phnom Penh on October 16 of the new situation in Cambodia, especially the recent events relating to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict.

Dick Clark, a former American senator, described as "conforming to liberal democracy" the platform adopted by the recent extraordinary national congress of the CPP.

He expressed particular concern over the situation in Cambodia during the transitional period and the possibility of the agreement being ignored by the other Khmer side, especially the Khmer Rouge.

The delegation of the Aspen Institute left here October 20 after a five-day visit to Cambodia.

While here, the delegation attended the closing session of the CPP congress (October 18) and met with Prime Minister Hun Sen.

The American guests also visited Siem Reap Province and the province of Kompong Spe most severely affected by the August flood.

PRC Seeks No Sphere of Influence in Cambodia

BK2510070691 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0447 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 25—China will strengthen traditional ties with Cambodia after a new government emerges from elections in Phnom Penh, but will not seek any selfish interests in the country, XINHUA was quoted as saying in Hong Kong Friday.

In a separate dispatch monitored in Hong Kong the official Chinese news agency quoted China's representative at the U.N. General Assemmly's Special Political Committee as calling Thursday for "mutual respect and cooperation between countries."

The agency quoted Qian as telling the Chinese press corps in Paris that China "sought neither selfish interests nor a sphere of influence in Cambodia."

Qian is in Paris for the signing Wednesday of the U.N.-sponsored peace agreements designed to bring a political settlement to Cambodia's 13-year-old civil war between Chinese- and U.S.-backed guerrillas and the Phnom Penh government.

As one of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and a neighbour of Cambodia, China has played a "dual role in the process of seeking peace and national reconciliation in that country," Qian was quoted as saying.

Qian rejected suggestion that some countries may use the settlement to seek a comeback to Indochina, saying that "times have changed and any attempt at soving problems along that line is both impractical and incompatible to the spirit of the newly-signed peace agreements."

Cambodia's affairs are a matter for Cambodians, Qian reportedly said, adding that "no country should try to exploit this opportunity to serve its own purpose."

Meanwhile, Luo Xu, China's delegate at the Special Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly—which is examining issues relating to information dissemination—called on all countries "to give special attention to deepening mutual respect and expanding cooperation on an equal footing," XINHUA said.

PRC, SRV 'Pleased' With Political Solution

BK2510070491 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0233 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 24—China and Vietnam are pleased with the achievements obtained by all Cambodian factions in completely solving the Cambodian problem.

In a reception given by Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen at Raphel Hotel in Paris, on October 22 Chinese [Deputy] Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin expressed his

satisfaction at the fine results achieved by all Cambodian factions in their efforts to completely solve the Cambodian issue.

In a separate reception held there the same day, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam welcomed the success of the political solution to the Cambodian conflict.

In his talks Hun Sen said that the Phnom Penh government was ready to facilitate the establishment of Chinese diplomatic missions in Cambodia.

Chea Sim Attends Youth National Congress Closing

BK2410092591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Report on the closing of the second youth union congress held on the afternoon of 23 October—portions recorded]

[Summary] The second national congress of the Cambodian Youth Association [CYA] ended successfully on the afternoon of 23 October after working busily for three days. "Present in the presidium on that occasion were, among others, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, the National Assembly, and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; His Excellency Sim Ka, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Phnom Penh Party Committee; Mr. Ek Sam-ol, deputy education minister; Mr. Men Kuon, chairman of the CYA Central Committee; Mr. Say Siphon, member of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Mrs. Chhuk Chhim, chairman of the Cambodian Women's Association; Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan, member of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union; Mr. (Le Chinh Hong), secretary of the Central Committee of Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; and many national and international guests."

After Mr. (Tep Nitha), deputy chief of the CYA Propaganda and Education Commission, read the resolution of the CYA second national congress, all congress members adopted the report, work targets, statute, and resolution of the congress.

Mr. Im Suosdei, vice chairman of the CYA Central Committee, then announced the result of the election of the new CYA Central Committee which has 21 members, including two women.

In his closing speech, Men Kuon said the congress proceeded successfully in a joyous and democratic atmosphere reflecting the lofty sense of mastery and responsibility of all congress members for the future, rights, and interests of Cambodian youths. "The congress members, mobilizing all their wisdom, thoroughly considered and unanimously adopted the report on the 1983-91 activities of the youth movement, the CYA action program from the end of 1991 to 1996, the new CYA statute, and elected the new CYA Central Committee which has 21 members, including a chairman, and two vice chairmen."

The congress was greatly honored to hear the valuable speeches by Their Excellencies Chea Sim and Heng Samrin reflecting the party's full concern for the future of the young generation. The congress attentively listened to the addresses full of good experiences and beneficial views made by representatives from various sectors. Particularly, the congress was happy about the presence of the delegations of the Lao and Vietnamese youth organizations which had made sincere speeches supporting and conveying warm friendship and solidarity to the Cambodian youths.

I would like to call on all youths throughout the country to jointly make efforts to contribute to building an independent, peaceful, democratic, and neutral Cambodia and to making national progress.

Hor Namhong Receives Outgoing Lao Ambassador

BK2310091691 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 15 October, Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, received Lao Ambassador Thongsoukkhoun Phuonsavat, who came to pay a courtesy visit and bid him farewell at the end of his mission to Cambodia.

On the occasion, the Lao ambassador thanked the Cambodian People's Party and the State of Cambodia government, specifically the Cambodian Foreign Ministry, for having ensured the favorable conditions that made the implementation of his task in Cambodia a success.

The ambassador also praised the State of Cambodia's stance on the road toward a political solution to the Cambodian problem—which is currently moving toward its final stage—to bring peace to the Cambodian people.

In his reply, Hor Namhong reaffirmed the bonds of friendship and solidarity between the two countries—Cambodia and Laos—which have been strengthened and expanded continually. With warm fraternal sentiment, he also conveyed, through the Lao ambassador, his greetings to the Lao foreign minister and leaders. In conclusion, he wished the Lao ambassador the best of health and every success in the implementation of his upcoming tasks.

Resistance Radios Announce Merger of Broadcasts

BK2510030091 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [VODK] and Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [VONADK] wish to inform the respected and beloved compatriots and listeners that the VODK and VONADK radios are a national voice which has joined the entire Cambodian nation and people and the tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces in carrying out struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors for the liberation of the country and people and for the protection of the Cambodian race survival.

On 23 October 1991, there was a signing of the accord on a comprehensive political settlement for ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. In view of this new situation, the VODK and VONADK radios will also terminate their broadcasts as of 27 October 1991 so as to merge into a new radio called Voice the Great National Union Front of Cambodia [VGNUFC].

The compatriots and listeners are invited to listen to the VGNUFC radio which will start its broadcast as of 28 October 1991.

Please do not forget to tune in

Indonesia

SRV Premier Vo Van Kiet Arrives for Visit

BK2410053291 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and wife arrived at Halim Perdanakusuma Airport, Jakarta at 1100 West Indonesia time [0400 GMT] this morning to begin a four-day visit to Indonesia.

The SRV premier and his entourage were driven from the airport to Merdeka Presidential Palace where they were given an official welcoming ceremony by President and Madame Tien Suharto.

Meets Suharto

BK2510092891 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] President Suharto and the prime minister of the SRV held a two-hour talk on issues concerning bilateral relations, regional, and international issues.

Speaking after the two-hour talk, Minister-State Secretary Murdiono clarified to newsmen that the two countries expressed their desire to see a peaceful end to the Cambodian problem as called for in the Paris conference. Minister Murdiono went on to say that that issue was discussed at the recently concluded Nonaligned Movement summit.

[Begin Murdiono recording] The president and the Vietnamese prime minister also exchanged views concerning the future of the Nonaligned Movement. The president clarified that the Nonaligned Movement was previously established with the major objective of grouping the colonized countries. Currently the problem of colonialization is almost eradicated. The non-aligned bloc currently needs to embark on a new spirit and objectives with a particular view on economic development. The president clarified to his guest that although the cold war between the superpowers has thawed, the world has yet to be rid of threats in other sectors—particularly the sociocultural and economic problems. In this connection, Indonesia considers it important to fortify its national resilience and when every nation has strengthened its national resilience, then only will there be a stronger regional resilience. The president also expressed his opinion concerning the emergence of economic blocs following the thawing of the cold war between the superpowers. If such economic blocs work cooperatively toward achieving more constructive objectives, then the living standard of the global population would greatly improve. But if the economic blocs confront each other, then bigger problems would arise. The Vietnamese prime minister stated that Vietnam also wishes to assist Indonesia in making the next non-aligned summit a success. The summit is scheduled to be held in Indonesia in September 1992. He also expressed Vietnam's specific desire to learn from Indonesia's experience on national development, particularly in the management of national funds and national agencies. Vietnam also stressed its greater desire to learn from Indonesia on how to fully exploit its natural resources—particularly in the petroleum and natural gas sectors. [end recording]

According to Minister Murdiono the Vietnamese government also hopes to acquire Indonesia's expertise on agricultural technology and foreign investments.

Meanwhile, speaking at a press conference Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Vu Quang stated that Vietnam wishes to cooperate with all countries, particularly with ASEAN on the basis of equality and freedom. He said the issue of overlapping continental shelf boundaries between the two countries has been discussed. Further discussions on the issue would be conducted by experts of the two countries in Hanoi in the near future.

The Vietnamese guests will meet Kadin [Indonesian Chamber of Trade and Commerce] members and the Vietnamese community in Jakarta later in the afternoon. They will leave for Surabaya and Bali tomorrow.

Suharto Hosts Banquet

BK2410155191 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] President and Mrs. Suharto hosted a dinner banquet in honor of SRV Prime Minister and Mrs. Vo Van Kiet at the State Palace tonight. The dinner banquet was preceded by the exchange of souvenirs. President Suharto presented to Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet a

golden Bali kris, a batik shirt, and books about Indonesia, while the Vietnamese guest gave the president a small cupboard made of shellfish depicting a peacock, and books about Vietnam. Meanwhile, Mrs. Suharto gave Mrs. Vo Van Kiet silk and a silver cutlery. In return, Mrs. Vo Van Kiet gave her a table cloth with a flower motif.

The dinner banquet was also attended by Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono, leaders of high state bodies, ministers, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, chiefs of staff of the three armed services, and chief of the Republic of Indonesia Police.

Banquet Speeches Cited

BK2510065691 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0606 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 25 (OANA-BERNAMA)—President Suharto said Thursday night Indonesia is confident the peace treaty signed in Paris two days ago to end Cambodia's 13-year-old civil war will provide a meaningful opportunity towards the creation of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

"Indonesia and other ASEAN countries will continue with efforts to help peace return to Cambodia. After a long and winding journey, hopefully solution to this complicated problem is now in sight," Suharto said at a banquet in honour of visiting Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, here last night.

The four Cambodian warring factions and 18 other countries, including the six ASEAN members which initiated peace talks that brought the four factions together three years ago, signed the treaty that also provides for a United Nations-supervised demobilisation and free elections.

In his reply, Vo who arrived Thursday for a four-day official visit, praised Indonesia for its tireless efforts in bringing the warring factions to negotiations.

The prime minister extended Vietnam's readiness to cooperate with Indonesia to work towards regional peace and stability.

Both leaders are scheduled to Meet on Friday. Vo would also address the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Economic Agreements Signed

BK2510071491 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Indonesia and SRV signed three economic cooperation agreements in Jakarta today. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister for economics, finance, and industry, and Tran Duc Luong, SRV vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, signed the agreements on behalf of their respective governments.

The three economic agreements are on sea and air links, trading, and investment promotion and guarantee. It is hoped that the signing of sea and air links, and trading agreements will further promote economic and trade ties between the two countries. Meanwhile, the investment promotion and guarantee agreement is expected to boost cooperation in the field of investment.

SRV Ambassador Sees Good Investment Prospects

BK2310100491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0800 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 23 (ANTARA-ECOANA)—Vietnam has up to now granted permits to four joint-venture projects with Indonesia, valued at 13 million U.S. dollars, Vietnamese Ambassador Do Ngoc Duong said here Tuesday.

"The trade ties between the two countries are increasing, therefore, I would like to say that the prospects of investments from Indonesia to Vietnam are very bright, and [words indistinct], he said, had already set up representative offices in Vietnam.

He noted the Nilam Group of Indonesia had decided to invest 45 percent of three million U.S. dollars for establishing a trade centre in Ho Chi Minh city. This project will be started in the beginning of 1992.

"After the centre becomes operational, it will have a turn-over of 100 million U.S. dollars in the first three years," he said.

"This trade centre will facilitate the strengthening of trade relations between Vietnam and Indonesia and other countries' businessmen."

As there were ample opportunities to expand and diversify their two-way trade, both countries had agreed to facilitate trade activities, he pointed out.

In the very near future, the two countries will sign an agreement for promoting and protecting investments. "Such an agreement will further encourage Indonesian companies to increase investments in Vietnam," he said.

Indonesia's economy, he said, enjoyed a high growth rate and had gained a lot of experiences in macroeconomic management, inflation control, and attracting foreign capital and investors.

"Vietnam wishes to learn from Indonesia and to apply the knowledge in a creative and effective way in the renewal process now taking place in Vietnam," he said, adding that for this purpose, Vietnam had sent many delegations to Indonesia on study tours.

Vietnam has adopted its own version of perestroyka, called Doi Moi policy. It has changed its economic system from a centrally- controlled economy to a market economy.

The export and import volumes between Vietnam and Indonesia had increased in the last five years. In 1986,

Indonesia's exports to Vietnam were valued at 29 million U.S. dollars and Vietnam's imports at 4.70 million U.S. dollars.

In 1990, Indonesia's exports were worth 27.30 million U.S. dollars, and Vietnam's exports rose to 38.80 million U.S. dollars.

Vietnam imports fertilizer, insecticide, gasoline, oil, cement, motorcycles, pharmaceutical products from Indonesia. Indonesia imports peanuts, soybeans, greenbeans, garlics, maize and iron scraps from there.

He further said there still were untapped areas that could be developed for the mutual benefit of both countries. He hoped the Vo Van Kiet's four days visit would lead to the exploitation of those areas.

Laos

Signing of Paris Treaty on Cambodia Issue Viewed

BK2510033291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 25 Oct 91

[PASASON 25 October "article": "New Situation, New Era of Cambodian People"]

[Text] On 20 October 1991, the international conference on the Cambodian issue was opened in Paris. In the conference, all participants together reviewed the words of the treaty that had been drafted earlier. Later, on 23 October, delegates of 19 countries participating in the conference, which was jointly hosted by France and Indonesia, with the participation of a UN representative, signed a treaty on peace in Cambodia. Altogether four documents were signed on this occasion: namely, the accord on comprehensive political settlement of the conflicts in Cambodia; an agreement on democracy, independence, territorial integrity; an agreement on non-aggression of the neutral and integrated land of the reunified Cambodian nation; and a statement on the restoration and reconstruction work in Cambodia.

The treaty on Cambodian peace as signed in Paris on this occasion is considered a document of legal significance. It marks an end to the civil war between the various factions in Cambodia after nearly 13 years of fierce and life-or-death fighting. It also serves as the opening of a new era—an era of peace and national concord—and the beginning of the path of development, which will be chosen by the Cambodian people themselves. The signing achievement of the said treaty has resulted from the tireless efforts of the government of the State of Cambodia and the contributions made by the various Cambodian factions. It has also resulted from the joint efforts tirelessly made by the three Indochinese peoples. Laos and Vietnam have also joined with the ASEAN member countries in seeking means to achieve peace and cooperation. The signing of the treaty is also considered the overall fruit of the efforts of various countries, in particular France, Indonesia, the United Nations, China, Australia, and Japan, which have helped organize the conferences among the various Cambodian factions on many occasions, in particular those in Indonesia, Beijing, Paris, and Phatthaya, Thailand; the conferences that have brought about the achievement of understanding on similar points of the problem, thus narrowing the gap of disputes between the various Cambodian factions, and finally reaching an agreement.

Nevertheless, it is not always certain that the signing of the Paris treaty on this occasion will bring about peace in Cambodia. World public opinion is still concerned over the implementation of the treaty by certain factions and supporters that can make this treaty on Cambodian peace be beneficial to the opposition side in the same way as they have done on many occasions and in many countries in the world. In view of this, it is still necessray for the Cambodian people to continue to maintain vigilance to face obstacles on the path of the implementation of the treaty of peace, national concord, and development that they have chosen.

The Lao people, as good neighbors of the Cambodian people, as in the past, will always stand by the side of the Cambodian people to make contributions to the successful and effective implementation of the treaty. The Lao people also pledge to continually adhere to the spirit of being good friends of the Cambodian people, share weal and woe, and together with the Cambodian people build the country to contribute to bringing about genuine peace, stability, cooperation, and prosperity to Southeast Asia.

Russian Visitor Calls For Increased Trade

BK2410133991 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] (Ureskiy), chairman of the Coordination Council of the Presidium of the Russian Council of Ministers, and his delegation have been paying an official visit to Laos since 15 October. On the afternoon of 22 October, the chairman held a news conference at the Soviet Cultural Center.

He said: The objective of the Russian delegation's visit is to study the conditions and possibilities for expanding technical cooperation with Indochinese countries.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], he said, should make further improvements to the existing economic cooperation and increase goods exchange. These involve the import of machinery, iron, oil, and other commodities from the Soviet Union while exporting wood and handicraft products from Laos. Joint ventures should be established with third countries participating in all forms of external trade, businesses, companies, and factories. Restrictions imposed by the federal government should be abolished and foreign investment promoted. The Soviet Union has issued a law at the beginning of this year in this regard.

Affirming that the delegation will on their return be encouraging Russian businessmen to be more attentive

to economic relations and cooperation with the LPDR and the Lao businessmen, (Ureskiy) said he believed Russian entrepreneurs will be visiting Laos.

The Russian delegation met Lao ministers during the visit, and the two sides were able to achieve a good understanding.

Attending the news conference were cadres and people from the mass media.

Philippines

Doubts Arise Over Tax Status of Base Equipment

HK2510100791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Oct 91

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] The Bureau of Customs [BOC] is unsure whether equipment brought in by United States for use at Subic Naval Base should be taxed since the 1947 Military Bases Agreement expired 16 September, 1991. This prompted the BOC to hold all the equipment until such time that it receives appropriate guidelines on the importation of equipment intended for Subic Naval Base.

However, according to Ambassador Raul Rabe, a member of the Philippine panel negotiating for an executive agreement on the withdrawal of U.S. bases from the country, U.S. cargo intended for Subic Naval Base is still exempt from taxes.

According to the Americans, the 1947 Military Bases Agreement still exists despite the Senate's rejection of the proposed military bases treaty; hence they continue to enjoy tax exemption. This contention by the United States was supported by Ambassador Raul Rabe. However, the Department of Foreign Affairs has yet to issue guidelines on this matter.

Senator Says Aquino Endorsement 'Unofficial'

HK2410115391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Senator Neptali Gonzales, president of the Struggle of the Filipino Democrats [LDP], has said that a plan by some party leaders to make President Aquino the standard bearer of the LDP was not an official step by the LDP party. Here is JoJo Ismael for the details:

[Begin Ismael recording] At a news conference, Gonzales admitted that some members and leaders of the LDP have talked with President Aquino in order to get her to reconsider her position of not running for president in the coming election. But Gonzales stressed that this was not an official decision by the party; it just turned out that those people who have talked with President Aquino were also officials of the LDP. He said that the rules of the party must first be amended before pushing for the drafting of Mrs. Aquino, who is not even a member of the party. [end recording]

Aquino Approves Foreign Investment Act

HK2510060291 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 25 Oct 91 p 8

[By Andres B. Saracho]

[Text] The National Economic and Development Authority [NEDA] board, chaired by President Aquino, confirmed in its meeting Wednesday [23 October] the rules and regulations for implementing the Foreign Investment Act of 1991 which is to clear the way for the entry of more foreign investments into the country.

The confirmation came two days after a cabinet-level committee gave its go-ahead to the rules formulated by the NEDA secretariat to simplify the country's investment laws by opening all investment areas and activities to up to 100 percent foreign equity participation, except those in the negative list, and easing the registration procedures for new investors.

The law, Republic Act No. 7042, is considered one of the landmark economic reforms undertaken by the Aquino administration. It allows foreigners to fully own or participate in investment areas in the country except those included in the negative list, which has three components.

List A consists of activities reserved for Philippine nationals and where foreign equity participation in any domestic or export enterprise covered by the list is limited to a maximum of 40 percent. List B comprises activities regulated pursuant to law affecting public health and morals, small and medium-sized domestic market enterprises with paid-in capital of less than $500,000 or its equivalent, which use up depleting natural resources. List C contains investment areas covered by existing enterprises which adequately serve the needs of the market and, therefore, do not require foreign investemnts.

NEDA director general Cayetano Paderanga Jr. said the law also provides relaxed rules for the registration of new investors. He said new investors would only be required to register with either the Securities and Exchange Commission, in the case of a corporation or a partnership, or the Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection, in the case of a single proprietorship, instead of going through the Central Bank and the Board of Investments for additional clearance.

To facilitate registration of new enterprises, processing of applications and clearances have been made time-bound. Paderanga said applications will be considered automatically approved if not acted within 15 working days from official acceptance of the application.

Paderanga said existing rules should be further reviewed to improve the country's investment climate as has become the trend in many progressive countries around the world.

"While we feel that we have made substantial improvements to make it much easier for foreign investors to enter the country through the act and these guidelines, we see a need to continue exploring scope for further improvement," Paderanga said.

He also batted for the review of other statutes and regulations affecting foreign investors, such as the visa requirements. He added that the government should push for the passage of related measures curently pending in Congress, notably House Bill [HB] No. 30884, which seeks to amend the Condominium Law; HB No. 30520, granting national status to multilateral institutions; HB No. 30521, providing for net operating loss carry-over; and HB No. 30522, providing for a uniform tariff on capital equipment.

Paderanga said the implementing rules and regulations will take effect 15 days after their publication.

Military Could Intervene to End Election 'Chaos'

HK2410135591 Hong Kong AFP in English 1338 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Manila, Oct 24 (AFP)—The military may intervene if disorder breaks out due to numerous disputes during the May 1992 national elections, Philippine military chief General Lisandro Abadia said here Thursday.

Asked about the possibility of widespread disorder if there are numerous cases of fraud during the elections, Gen. Abadia said "that will be for the people to decide."

"There is a provision in the constitution that it is the duty of the military to restore order and normalcy should chaos occur," he said

"That issue should be decided by the people as in EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue]," he said referring to the 1986 popular revolt that toppled then-president Ferdinand Marcos from power and installed Corazon Aquino in his place.

The revolt was sparked by popular resentment at the widespread poll frauds at the February, 1986 snap elections between Aquino and Marcos. During that revolt, large sections of the military defected away from Marcos after civilians staged a large demonstration at a major avenue called EDSA.

Some observers fear that the simultaneous May 1992 presidential, congressional and local elections will result in numerous electoral disputes with the many candidates filing charges against each other, thus preventing a new administration from obtaining a popular mandate.

Abadia Statement Said Taken 'Out of Context'

HK2510063791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0605 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Manila, Oct 25 (AFP) - Philippine newspapers were accused Friday of taking statements by military chief General Lisandro Abadia out of context when they quoted him as saying that the armed forces would take over the country if national elections next May result in chaos.

What Gen. Abadia meant to say, a military statement said, was that the armed forces would continue to follow "legal orders from legitimate authority such as the commander in chief, the Congress, the Supreme Court and the commission on elections."

The military also said it would not get involved in any political exercise except to "maintain civil order and normalcy."

Gen. Abadia was quoted as telling reporters Thursday that if widespread disorder broke out after the 1992 elections, "it is the duty of the military to restore order and normalcy should chaos occur."

Some observers fear that the simultaneous presidential, congressional and local elections will result in many candidates filing charges against each other, thus preventing a new administration from obtaining a popular mandate.

Junior military officers led a mutiny against Ferdinand Marcos after a disputed snap presidential election in 1986 in which Corazon Aquino claimed she had been robbed of victory.

Their action led to the "people power" revolt by hundreds of thousands of Filipinos which sent Marcos, longtime president of the Philippines, into exile in Hawaii and brought Aquino to power.

Abadia Comments on Report of Coup Plan

HK2510020191 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said that he will not launch any coup d'etat against the administration of Aquino, but he also said that the military have the right to take over if there is widespread fraud in the upcoming election. Abadia allayed fears of the people regarding the report that he will head a coup d'etat against the Aquino government by saying that has no such plans. Abadia also said that the rebel soldiers have no intention of overthrowing the Aquino regime. Nevertheless, Abadia stressed that the military might intervene only if the people want it to just like the 1986 Epifanio de los Santos Avenue Revolution which overthrew the administration of former President Marcos. Abadia said that it is their duty to maintain peace and order in the country in the upcoming election, and that any trouble coming from the rebels will be opposed by the military.

Commentary Views Aquino Reelection Bid

HK2510052491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 25 Oct 91 p 10

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "What Happens When Mrs Aquino Runs Again?]

[Text] Despite the constitutional ban on a second term and her repeated avowals not to run again, President Aquino's running in 1992 is now imminent. Both Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. and former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, after having been encouraged by Malacanang to slug it out for the LDP [Struggle of the Filipino Democrats] presidential nomination, have now been asked to give way to her. For the first time since 1986, she has stopped answering the usual question from the Malacanang press corps whether or not she will run again. And now an LDP source has revealed that the gameplan is for her to run again, amend the Constitution afterward to shift to a parliamentary system, and leave government in Mitra's hands as prime minister while she assumes the position of ceremonial president.

Many are hoping and praying this is just a bad dream. Some—like Senate president Jovito Salonga—are trying to convince themselves—and Mrs Aquino—that she would only damage her credibility by running again, after having declared at least 89 times that she won't. Salonga wants her to abandon all thoughts of running again and to concentrate instead on rebuilding the economy, if she can. Others—notably supporters of Mitra and Ramos—are taking pains to point out that only Representative Jose "Peping" Cojuangco Jr., her younger brother, not she herself, has asked the two LDP rivals to give up their presidential ambitions. Cory, they insist, is not her brother's keeper and vice versa; they are two differnt individuals with two different minds, not Siamese twins or even a team.

The time has come to look at reality as it is, and put an end to false distinctions and wishful thinking. The President and her brother may not think alike on many things, they may not even say the same thing when they agree on something. But they are agreed on the bottomline, and the bottomline is: Who will protect their family and personal interests if—or after—she gives up political power.

This is not an idle concern. Having done to the Marcos family what no president before her had ever done to his predecessor, can Mrs Aquino and her brother expect the next administration to be lenient to them? Who will protect the wealth they have amassed since 1986 from possible sequestion? Having unleashed that ugly beast on the Marcoses and their friends, what is to protect them from the same beast, once they are out of power?

They can expect protection only from a president who would owe his office and his life to them. Short of that, they risk taking the place of the Marcoses and the other victims of the Aquino regime. Mrs Aquino and her clan know this; they are too smart not to. So while most of our politicians are more civilized and human than the incumbent, Mrs Aquio and her clan cannot simply tkae the risk; their own guilt compels them to expect the new regime to deal with them in exactly the same way they had dealt with the Marcoses.

Reason tells her she cannot entrust the future to a Mitra or a Ramos, especially the latter. For no matter how devoted and loyal either of them may appear as of now, once he becomes president, he would immediately acquire a new set of loyalties; he would have no reason to defend the Cojuangco-Aquino interests as eagerly as he would defend the national interest (if he turns out to be a patriot) or his own (if he turns out to be a knave). It is safe to assume that Mrs Aquino and her brother think alike on this question and that precisely because of this she will run again, if there is the ghost of a chance of going around the constitutional prohibition.

This explains her latest appointment to the Supreme Court. Do you honestly think she appointed her former legal assistant Mrs Flerida Ruth Romero because the lady's intellectual prowess takes her breath away, or because she is determined to anger the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and the Court of Appeals? Neither. It is all in preparation for her running again.

Since the constitutionality of her candidacy is going to be questioned, she must do everything to assure herself of enough votes in the Court when the question arises. In the end, the justices may not live up to her expectations, but that's entirely another matter.

Having named her own legal assistant to the Court, she can now tell Mitra, as her brother Peping has evidently done, that while he could win the nomination he would surely lose the election. And she can now tell Ramos, as her brother has also reportedly done, that while he might make the stronger candidate, he will never get the vote of the LDP that has been fattened on Mitra's pork barrel. Finally she can now tell them both, as she may alredy have, that since Imelda Marcos is coming home to run for president, she must run again in order to finish her late Ninoy's unfinished battle.

All this is patently unfair and cruel to Mitra, Ramos and their supporters, not to mention the presidency which deserves someone better. But does she care? Not at all. As a cacique, she has been brought up to treat people of lesser social pedigree as chattel. They are not supposed to have any unauthorized sensibilities, or to resent the cruelty of their master. They are supposed to do everything to please her. Thus Mitra is expected to rejoice that he is at least being promised the first prime ministership in the forthcoming parliamentary system.

But all this is as premeditated as murder. It is not a spontaneous or an inspired solution to a stalemate that has developed within the administration. Not at all. It is the denouement of a plot that has been cooked up on the sly from the very beginning. Unlike Ferdinand Marcos who did not encourage any of his subalterns to nourish

ambitions of ever succeeding him, she openly encouraged Mitra and Ramos to vie for the honor while she and her clan secretly plotted to make short shrift of their ambitions. They trusted her, and this is what she did to them. It is unspeakably treacherous and cruel.

With Mrs Aquino running, and expecting to preside over a midterm shift to the parliamentary system, nothing will ever be the same again. In an honest count, she would be the easiest candidate to beat, but since she is moving heaven and earth just to run again, this means she would not allow herself to lose in any count. The Constitution will be desecrated and the elections will be dirty, violent, and farcical. Whoever looks forward to beating her in 1992 will have to reckon with all the imaginable manipulations of a regime that got away with wholesale computerized fraud in the 1987 senatorial elections and is determined to keep power by all means, foul or worse than foul.

No matter what she does, the moment she becomes a candidate, given the clear prohibition on anyone who had served as president for more than four years from running for the office, the nation will automatically conclude that she has declared a full-blown revolt against the Constitution and that the Constitution has been finally reduceed to a cheap rag, a dirty scrap of paper. That could ignite unprecedented troubles.

A Supreme Court ruling saying her candidacy is not unconstitutional (this lies within the realm of the possible) would have little calming effect on the population. It would only shatter any residual confidence in the Court and popular allegiance to the constitutional and legal order. And the genie of military revolt, which has slept inside the bottle since December 1989, could once again jump out—before, during or after the elections—to put an end to the electoral farce and replace the supremacy of questionable civilian authority once and for all.

Mrs Aquino might never be president again, nor Mitra prime minister. She could go the way of many power-driven tyrants before her—reap worse calumny than she had sown against her predecessor and destroy the only good thing that world opinion had generously but erroncously credited to her when she acceded to power.

Agency Created To Handle Insurgency Cases

HK2510113191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] An agreement creating an agency which will facilitate the expeditious disposition of all insurgency cases was signed by representatives from the Department of Justice, the Department of National Defense, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government [DILG]. Those who signed the agreement were acting Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III, Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, and General Cesar Nazareno, director of the Philippine National Police, who was standing in for DILG Secretary Luis Santos. The agreement expedites the investigation of insurgency-related cases.

NPA Kills Mayor, Six Others in Eastern Samar

HK2510062391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 25 Oct 91 p 20-B

[By Ted Marcos]

[Text] Tacloban City—The town mayor of Lawaan, Eastern Samar was slain in an ambush by New People's Army (NPA) rebels last Saturday during the Balangiga Massacre commemoration rites. His alleged interference in a labor dispute in the Amanhoray mini-hydro power plant in this town was the reason for the killing, according to Chief Superintendent Vicente S. Garcia, Jr., Philippine National Police (PNP) regional director.

Aside from Mayor Enciso, six other companions aboard the police patrol car were killed in the ambush. They were identified by the police as Milagros Enciso, public school teacher and cousin-in-law of the mayor; Sangguniang Bayan [Municipal] member Violeto Gabornes; Fausta Quias and Enrico Dacuno, both public school teachers of Lawaan. Wounded were Police Officer 3 Eusebio Heidelberg, driver of the police car; Sanggunlang Bayan member Fidela Abayan; barangay captain Nicolas Menaros; barangay kagawad [aide] Carlos Edir; and a civilian, Francis Autor.

Also wounded were PO3 [Police Officer Three] Carmelita Longos and PO2 [Police Officer Two] Danilo Lumagbas of the 362nd PNP mobile team.

Imeida Marcos Requests Full Honors for Marcos

HK2410131191 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] According to the Northern Luzon Alliance, Imelda Marcos might support the candidacy of President Aquino if she were allowed to bring the remains of former President Marcos. Here is Anna Soriano with the details:

[Begin Soriano recording] Imelda Marcos requested that the government give full state honors to the remains of former President Marcos upon his arrival in the country. The alliance, headed by Congressman Roquito Ablan and Luis Chavit Singson, promised cooperation with the Aquino administration regarding the return of Marcos' remains. Ablan said they needed to cooperate with the government in order to know the place the government will allow when Mrs. Marcos brings her husband's remains. Isabela Governor Faustino Dy stressed the local executive in the Ilocos Region will support President Aquino if she decides to run again in the coming election. [end recording]

Formal Graft Charges Filed Against Marcos

HK2410054991 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Solicitor General Frank Chavez yesterday formally filed the first criminal charge against Mrs. Imelda Marcos. The case was her attempt to withdraw $356 million deposited in a Swiss bank.

In the government's 51-page complaint, Chavez said that six counts of graft charges await Mrs. Marcos. Chavez also accused Mrs. Marcos of violating Central Bank law that prohibits any government official from opening and maintaining dollar deposits in another country. Mrs. Marcos allegedly also violated the antigraft and corrupt practices act.

Thailand

Anan Welcomes Sigring of Cambodian Peace Accord

BK2410141591 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] The Cambodian peace accord, which was signed in Paris at 0200 on 24 October, represents a positive sign after 40 to 50 years of unrest in Cambodia. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun made this remark when he briefed reporters after a joint meeting between the cabinet and the National Peacekeeping Council at the Supreme Command Headquarters.

[Begin recording] [Anan] This is a good sign for this region where fighting broke out after World War II about 45 to 50 years ago. At least we have peace and cooperation on paper now. Although the peace accord has been signed, this does not mean that peace will come immediately. There might be some incidents that will not be in conformity with the agreement. However, the accord is a good sign. We will begin a new era. We also hope that all sides that have taken part in the peace talks and have made a commitment under the accord will respect the agreement.

[Unidentified correspondent] Does the Thai Government's policy to help rebuild Cambodia remain valid?

[Anan] The Thai Government cannot do this alone. The government has appealed to the international community, especially the developed countries and countries with rich resources, to help Cambodia improve its economic and social conditions. If developed countries can lead in this, the Thai Government is ready to consider helping our neighbor Cambodia to stand with dignity and helping bring peace and prosperity to the Cambodian people.

[Unidentified correspondent] The United Nations says that the Supreme National Council will be allowed to participate in the repatriation of Cambodian refugees. What does that mean?

[Anan] I do not know about this agreement. The accord was agreed upon by several countries. There may be an agreement on the repatriation of refugees. As late as this morning, I have not heard whether this agreement has been finalized. Talks on this point will continue if the point has not been finalized. [end recording]

Government Protection for Cambodian Refugees Urged

BK2510021391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Oct 91 p 4

[Letter from "Post Bag" by Robert Chambers, secretary general of the International Secretariat of the International Society for Human Rights]

[Text] Sir: The Thailand authorities do not seem to act as though they are willing to intervene on the behalf of the 45,000 residents of the Site 8 refugee camp who are in imminent danger of forceful repatriation to Cambodia by the Khmer Rouge. The outside world is looking on in horror at this threat whilst the only Government able to do something practical to stop this is standing idle.

Whilst the peace in Cambodia will be thankfully welcomed by the world, nevertheless the world could not look favourably on a country which permits gross violations of the provisions of that peace treaty to take place from its territory.

There is an obvious choice between upholding lawfulness and peace and protecting the human rights of the inhabitants of the Khmer camps and allowing gross violations of human rights to occur. The Thai Government should therefore look again if it is able to help. In any positive action they would undoubtedly have the support of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council as well as most of the world community.

Dailies Welcome Cambodian Peace Accord

BK2410153591

[Editorial Report] Two Thai dailies—SIAM RAT and MATICHON—in Thai on 23 and 24 October carried editorials welcoming the signing of the Cambodian peace accord in Paris.

SIAM RAT's 23 October 600-word editorial on page 3, entitled: "Cambodia: The Beginning of Peace," says that "23 October can be regarded as an important day in the new history of Indochina as the four Cambodian factions, which have been fighting for about 13 years, are to sign a peace accord to end their conflict and to jointly rebuild their country in order to bring peace and happiness to the Cambodian people."

The editorial says that peace in Cambodia will generate a lot of opportunities for Thailand to become a gateway for the prosperity that will be brought into Cambodia. Moreover, Thailand's burden of sheltering hundreds of thousands of Cambodians along the border will end. The areas along the Cambodian border will become important economically. Therefore, the government should

exercise special care and give priority to Thailand's several eastern provinces, which will become the gateway for development in Cambodia. The development should not simply involve building bridges linking Cambodia with the outside world. It should also bring growth and prosperity to Cambodia with Thailand simultaneously benefiting from this growth.

In concluding, the paper says that "from now on, the eastern part of Thailand will be prominent on the world map. We should take this opportunity to enhance the significance of this area."

MATICHON's 24 October 600-word editorial on page 8, entitled: "Long Live the Cambodian Peace Accord," says that if nothing unusual happens, the Cambodian peace accord will be signed in Paris at 1930 on 23 October or at 0130 on 24 October Thai time, by the leaders of the four Cambodian factions and foreign ministers from 19 countries before the French president and the UN secretary general. "This is an important step towards ending the fighting that broke out in Cambodia on 7 January, 1979."

The peace accord to end the fighting among the Cambodian people will have positive effects for Thailand. Thailand will no longer have to shoulder the burden of sheltering the Cambodian refugees and be concerned with spillovers from the fighting. The country will be able to deal with Cambodian robbers and cooperate with the Cambodian Government in the future in suppressing border crime. In addition, Thailand has the potential to help Cambodia develop its economy such as by providing science and technological know-how and funds. However, diplomats remain skeptical about genuine peace in Cambodia, fearing that the Khmer Rouge may continue to create violence.

In conclusion, the editorial says that "nobody dares to reject this concern. However, if we look at the current world situation, we see that the international atmosphere is not conducive to fighting in Cambodia because the countries that supported the warring parties there such as the Soviet Union, the United States, China, and Vietnam, are all emphasizing economic development rather than confrontation as in the past. As a result, peace in Cambodia, which was initiated in Paris, will be really take place."

Paper Views Problems Still Confronting Cambodia

BK2510001391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 25 Oct 91 p A10

[Editorial: "Cambodia Deserves Real Help, Not Lip Service"]

[Text] US Secretary of State James Baker found some time off from his shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East to take part in the signing of the peace agreement on Cambodia in Paris last Wednesday. He used this opportunity to reiterate the US concern that Khmer Rouge political participation in post-settlement Cambodia may not guarantee peace because leaders of the radical communist party have not changed; nor have they renounced their genocidal policies that caused the deaths of at least hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during their reign of terror (1975-78). Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans would even support an international tribunal to try Khmer Rouge leaders for genocide and war crimes. Britain's Lord Caithness, the minister of state for Foreign Affairs, singled out Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Ta Mok as the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for genocide.

The genocide is a historical fact that the Khmer Rouge must live with. But where was the United States, Australia, Britain and the UN Security Council, for that matter, when Cambodians were slaughtered by the Khmer Rouge? Taking the moral high ground and condemning the Khmer Rouge's atrocities, like Baker and a few other Western leaders did in Paris this week, is easy. But since the Paris peace accord gives the Khmer Rouge equal footing with the three other Cambodian parties in political participation, a more relevant issue now is how to make the Khmer Rouge respect human rights.

The primary burden in promoting respect for human rights by all Cambodian parties, not just the Khmer Rouge alone, is on the United Nations, which will set up the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to restore and run the war-torn country pending a general election in 18 months. The Supreme National Council [SNC], which includes two Khmer Rouge leaders as council members and Prince Norodom Sihanouk as chairman, is also to be held responsible for any human right violations in post-settlement Cambodia.

Their first crucial test is the repatriation of all the estimated 350,000 Cambodians displaced by the 12-year-long war now living in encampments along the Thai-Cambodian border. Field reports from the border area in recent weeks indicated that the Khmer Rouge has forced Cambodians at Site 8 to move across the border into western Cambodian territories under Khmer Rouge control. The forced repatriation was a clear case of violation of the human rights of those Cambodians who didn't want to remain with the Khmer Rouge. Will the UN and the SNC do anything to evacuate from Khmer Rouge territory those Cambodians who want to live elsewhere?

All the displaced Cambodians certainly want to return to normal life, earn their living and live in peace. The UNTAC and the SNC must see to it that these poor Cambodians know they are free to choose instead of blindly following their camp leaders. But first the border areas must be made really safe for travelling and all rural villages safe for living and conducive to maintaining a livelihood.

A great deal of money will be needed in this gigantic reconstruction of Cambodia. So far the UN is still waiting for contributions. Those that worry the most about a possible return to power of the Khmer Rouge should by now have come forward with generous donations and offers of other assistance. Now is the time for concrete action, not lip service.

Cambodia is well-endowed with natural resources. Its economic potential is comparatively higher than Laos and Vietnam. Its rich historical and cultural heritage as well as its natural beauty make the country a promising tourist destination in Southeast Asia. All Cambodia needs now is a chance to live in peace and generous assistance to overcome decades of warfare and atrocities.

Once the country is back on its feet, it will not be easy for the Khmer Rouge or any other parties to turn back the clock and force the Cambodians to kill one another once again. The end of the Cold War and the collapse of communist regimes in Europe and the Soviet Union should be a clear warning to the Khmer Rouge, young and old, to adjust their radical left-wing ideology to keep up with the changing world.

Since leaders of the four Cambodian parties have agreed to end their war, the world community should help them live in peace together and them live in eace together and, more importantly, help all Cambodian people to start a new life.

Chances are that a large number of Cambodians may not want to identify with any of the four parties when Cambodia has freedom and prosperity.

SRV Premier's Upcoming Visit Previewed

BK2510031791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Oct 91 p 17

[Text] Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet will meet leading Thai businessmen and industrialists next Monday, the first day of his official three-day visit to this country to promote closer economic ties between Thailand and Vietnam.

Among the estimated 80 businessmen invited to meet Mr Kiet were senior representatives of the Board of Trade and the Federation of Thai Industries, an official source at the Vietnamese Embassy here said.

The Vietnamese premier arrived in Jakarta yesterday on the first leg of his three-nation ASEAN tour that also included Thailand and Singapore.

The prime objective of the trip was to forge friendly ties and closer economic cooperation with the non-communist countries of ASEAN.

During his visit to Thailand, Mr Kiet was expected to sign a bilateral Thai-Vietnamese agreement on the promotion and protection of private investments.

Thai and Vietnamese officials said the agreement would bolster confidence among potential Thai investors and possibly lead to more Thai investments in Vietnam.

Despite the initial rush by Thai businessmen into Vietnam following the well-known policy initiative announced by former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan to turn Indochina from a battle field to a market place, Thailand at present ranked quite low on the list of foreign investors in Vietnam which was topped by the Taiwanese.

The officials said Mr Kiet also was expected to initial a memorandum of understanding setting out the broad framework of bilateral cooperation in the fields of energy and petroleum.

Negotiations had been going on between the Petroleum Authority of Thailand and Petro Vietnam on the exploitation of large gas reserves off the Vietnamese coast, though no conclusion had been finalised yet.

Measures Proposed for ASEAN Free Trade Area

BK2510033591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Oct 91 p 19

[Text] Thailand's proposal to establish an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) was accepted by the ASEAN Ministerial Level Meeting in Kuala Lumpur in early October. An agreement is expected to be signed at the summit meeting in January next year.

Over the next 15 years, ASEAN will gradually become a free-trade area if all goes according to plan.

Bangkok Bank's research department has suggested that the private sector pay more attention to the ASEAN market and invest more across ASEAN borders.

It is not easy to persuade all ASEAN members to accept the concept, but the fact that they have done so indicates a new will in the association.

Previously, each ASEAN state put its own interests first, but the spectre of the single market in Europe and the North America Free Trade Area had prompted them to adopt a more farsighted view.

When a trading bloc is formed, the intra-group market will become bigger and more efficient productionwise, and more funds will be available for investment. ASEAN countries now fear being excluded from these markets and starve of funds. [sentence as published].

These effects could become even worse as the tendency to form groups becomes stronger. The two already being formed will not stand still. The US and Canada will be joined by Mexico next year and may later bring in Latin America.

The Single Europe in 1992 may later include EFTA and eastern-Europe may one day be brought in.

These are all distinct possibilities and these markets will become very large with huge bargaining power, in which it will be very difficult for outsiders to get a toe-hold.

This makes it easier for Thailand to push for an ASEAN Free Trade Area. The area, with a market of 325 million people, will become a free-trade zone for manufactured products within 15 years.

Import duties will gradually be reduced on the CEPT (Common Effective Preferential Tariff) principle proposed by Indonesia, to give that country a share in Thailand's concept.

Formerly, ASEAN's trade protectionism was strong as each member state sought to protect its own industries. Last year, the proportion of intra-ASEAN trade to ASEAN/world trade was less than 10 per cent.

Despite PTAs (preferential trading arrangements) on 15,000 items, PTA trade is till less than 5 per cent of total intra-ASEAN trade. Each country has its own exclusive list, stunting trade growth.

A study on import duties showed that ASEAN countries had relatively high average tariff rates, the highest being Indonesia, followed by Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore, with 32.6 per cent, 30.7 per cent, 29.2 per cent, 25 per cent and 6.4 per cent in that order, while Brunei was the most open.

Over the past three years, ASEAN had been adjusting itself by becoming more systematic and reducing many categories of import duty, with Thailand and Malaysia in the lead, so average import duties have been falling. The more they fall, the more intra-ASEAN trade will expand.

Thailand's opening up is the clearest and most systematic. Major import duties have been lowered, including those on some categories of machinery and computers from 20 per cent to 5 per cent, and motor cars (CBU) from 180-300 per cent to 60-100 per cent. It also has a plan to reduce duties on all types of capital goods to 5 per cent, raw materials, intermediate goods and finished products to 10 per cent, 15 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively, and others that need a high degree of protection to 30 per cent.

Malaysia has reduced many import duty rates and used a free-trade zone to promote exports and attract foreign investment. The Philippines is also trying to reform, but political problems make the task difficult. Indonesia once had very high duty rates, but as of the end of 1988, these have been reduced to an average of 21 per cent.

These efforts have encouraged faster growth in ASEAN and thus encouraged the region to go for a free-trade area. This is further encouraged by the bloc formation in and pressure from the developed world. Over the next 15 years, many obstacles will lie in wait, including a scarcity of funds to develop large joint ventures and difficulty in reaching agreement on the fine print, but these problems should be solvable.

Bangkok Bank's research department proposed the following supplementary measures to make the ASEAN Free Trade Area a success:

—Set ASEAN product standards and improve products;

—Establish an ASEAN central market to prevent price cutting and to enable ASEAN to set its own prices;

—Employ a liberal policy to increase cooperation in production to rationalise the allocation of resources and increase production efficiency;

—Make the movement of human resources more flexible;

—Improve tax systems and make the rates more equal;

—Improve infrastructure, in particular freight routes, to reduce costs; and

—Promote a greater private-sector role in transnational business.

The department expects the agreement on the ASEAN Free Trade Area to be signed at the summit meeting in January, as it will prove to be the region's salvation in this new age of trade bloc formation and growing protectionism.

It said now was the time for the private sector to turn its attention to the opportunities presented by neighbouring markets.

'Historic Agreement' With Cambodian Airlines

BK2510025191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Oct 91 p 17

[Text] Cambodian Airlines and Thai Airways International (THAI) yesterday concluded an historic agreement to exchange aviation operations from next April, ending a 16-year-old service suspension.

The agreement would result in daily flights between Thailand and Cambodia by the two national airlines next year.

High-ranking officials on both sides discussed future aviation relations between Cambodia and Thailand for a full day yesterday and signed the agreement last night.

Representatives of the Cambodian side included the director-general of Cambodian Airlines, Phan Nguon, the chief officer of the Cambodian Civil aviation Department, Thach Uk, and the chief of the Civil Aviation Department's International Relations, Meas Samit.

The Thai side was represented by the vice president of THAI's corporate planning and international relations department, Phisit Kutsakayanon.

Mr Phisit said the two airlines agreed to operate daily flights linking Bangkok and Phnom Penh from April.

The discussions were subsequent to the in-principle agreement reached between the Thai Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC) a few months ago, he said.

Yesterday was the first official meeting of the two airlines, although a THAI team had spent some time inspecting the facilities in Cambodia.

Mr Nguon said yesterday's agreement was based on equality. Both airlines would be able to operate the same number of flights, he said.

THAI planned to use its Boeing 737 aircraft—which was considered suitable for the Pochentong Airport—for the route, and would provide technical assistance to Cambodian Airlines to enable it to develop its flight operations in the future.

Both sides agreed to further strengthen aviation cooperation in the future, including increasing the number of distinations.

"The Government is expanding Pochentong Airport to accommodate rising flight operations to Cambodia, and we hope to have close relations and cooperation with THAI, particularly in technical assistance," Mr Nguon said.

"The agreed daily flight is just the start of our future aviation relations."

The agreement between Cambodian Airlines and THAI would promote the position of Thailand as the effective gateway into the country, considering that most services out of the country were carried out by charter operations either in Bangkok or Singapore.

Mr Phisit said the agreement signed yesterday would be submitted to both countries' governments for final approval.

Bangkok Airways currently operated 10 flights a week from Bangkok to Phnom Penh, with the right to operate charter flights owned by Transindo Co.

Central European Airlines operated a twice-weekly charter flight from Singapore to Phnom Penh.

In a separate report, Transindo Co was reportedly negotiating with the national airline of Laos over possible joint operations. The company reportedly planned to operate charter flights linking Thailand, Cambodia and Laos.

An agreement on the route would also help boost the role of Thailand as an aviation gateway to Indochinese countries.

Vietnam

Foreign Minister, Baker Discuss Normalization

BK2510124491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker have described as positive the normalization relation between the United States and Vietnam against the background of an overall political system to the Cambodia conflict.

During the meeting on Wednesday, Mr. Baker said he hoped the signing of the agreement will usher in a new era in Southeast Asia and stated the United States intended to develop normal relations with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Mr. Baker said the U.S. considers as positive Vietnam cooperative attitude during recent exchange in Hanoi with the U.S. presidential emissary General John Vessey.

To begin with, he expressed that U.S. Government will revise embargo decision so that American journalists, business people, veterans, and tourists may go to Vietnam individually or in organized group. It also lifted the 25-mile restriction imposed on the movement Vietnamese diplomats in New York.

The two sides agreed to discuss in New York within next month the issue of modalities involved the normalization of diplomatic relations.

More on Nguyen Manh Cam-Baker Meeting

BK2410152791 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 24—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam on Wednesday met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Paris to exchange questions in the process of the gradual normalisation of relations between Vietnam and the United States prior to the signing of the Paris agreement on Cambodia.

The U.S. secretary of state expressed his hope that the signing of the peace agrement on Cambodia would open up prospects for a new era in Southeast Asia, and affirmed his desire to step by step normalize relations with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. As regards Vietnam, the U.S. Government appreciated the Vietnamese Government's positive cooperation in the recent view exchanges in Hanoi with General Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President. He said that in the immediate future, the U.S. Government would alter its decisions on embargo so that American journalists, businessmen, war veterans and tourist groups may travel to Vietnam either individually or in organized groups. The United States will lift the restrictions on the movement of Vietnamese diplomats at the United Nations within 25 miles of New York.

For his part, Minister Nguyen Manh Cam affirmed the Vietnamese Government's foreign policy to broaden its relations with all the countries in the world in service of peace and development in Vietnam, as well as of peace and stability in the region and elsewhere in the world. The gradual normalisation of the Vietnam- U.S. relations should be carried out on the basis of mutual response to each other's concern and interests.

The two sides agreed to begin discussions in New York within the next month on the issues and modalities involved in the normalization of the diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Present at the meeting on the Vietnamese side were Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co and Ambassador Pham Binh and on the U.S. side, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Kenneth Quinn.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Meeting

BK2410163591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] As has already been reported, our Foreign Ministry held a news conference at the Government House this morning, 24 October, to release our government statement on Cambodia. A large number of local and foreign reporters and representatives of various international organizations in Hanoi attended this conference.

After releasing the full text of our government statement, Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai answered various questions.

Answering a question raised by a UPI correspondent on the prospects for normalizing diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the United States following the signing of the Paris agreement, Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai said:

The U.S. secretary of state announced that the United States and Vietnam would hold official talks on the normalization of relations within a month following the signing of the Paris agreement on Cambodia. I see this as a positive sign and we highly welcome this.

U.S. Secretary of State Baker has met our Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam. We will make public the details of this meeting when necessary.

Answering a question about whether or not Vietnamese military and party advisers still remain in Cambodia, Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai once again affirmed that Vietnam has no advisers of any kind still in Cambodia. If there are any Vietnamese in Cambodia, they are businessmen and technicians working under various economic contracts.

A REUTERS correspondent asked: Does the United States still link the MIA issue with the process of normalizing relations with Vietnam? And, how many Vietnamese missing in action during the war with the United States are still unaccounted for?

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai answered: We neither reject nor accept the process proposed by the United States because this is the U.S. stance on the talks. We also have our own stance. The United States and Vietnam should sit down together to talk, taking into account the positions of both sides. For quite some time now, the United States and Vietnam have held talks on the positions of both sides and have attained certain results. We regard the MIA problem as a humanitarian issue. We and General John Vessey, the U.S. presidential special envoy, have agreed to separate this problem from other political issues. Vietnam will strive to solve the MIA problem regardless of whether or not our relations with the United States are normalized. We hold that the normalization must be realized on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and mutual respect. As long as the United States does not realize its interests in its relations with Vietnam, there will be obstacles in the process toward normalization. The world has changed greatly. Therefore, I feel optimistic about this issue.

As for the number of Vietnamese missing in action during the war with the United States, it is reported that they stand at somewhere near 300,000. I would like to further add that among those Vietnamese participating in the search for Americans missing in action there are many who have missing relatives still unaccounted for.

Mr. David Smith, a representative of the UNDP [United National Development Program], asked: Does Mr. Baker's statement at the Paris conference on Cambodia have any effect on a roundtable conference we are planning to hold on aid to Vietnam? And has the time come for such a conference?

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai answered: We highly appreciate the efforts of the UNDP and of Mr. David Smith himself toward Vietnam. Mr. Baker's statement is a positive sign. We welcome this. The way we see it, a forseeable result is that Vietnam and the United States will have official normalization talks this November. As for their prospects, I can only say beforehand that the talks will not fail. Vietnamese-U.S. relations will continue to gradually improve. Whether this improvement will be fast or slow will depend on the United States' well-informed attitude. The atmosphere is, in general, more positive than in the past stage. The U.S. side has regularly informed us of its activities aimed at the step-by-step easing of the embargo against Vietnam. However, it has not made known when the embargo will be completely lifted. As for other countries, more and more of them have declared their decision to resume development aid to Vietnam.

Commentary Views 'Positive Signal'

BK2510134891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Station commentary on "Two Major Events Concerning Vietnam This Week"]

[Text] The signing of the peace agreement on Cambodia and the meeting between the foreign ministers of Vietnam and the United States have captured worldwide attention.

At a press conference held by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on Thursday to make public the Vietnamese Government's declaration on the peace agreement on Cambodia, foreign correspondents asked Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai questions concerning the Vietnam-Cambodia and Vietnam-U.S. relations.

The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's press conference on Thursday was attended by almost all foreign correspondents present in Vietnam because of the importance of the Vietnam-Cambodia and Vietnam-U.S. meetings of the past two days.

The meeting between Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker took place shortly after the U.S. Administration had decided to maintain the embargo against Vietnam. At the press conference, the participants focused on Vietnam's reaction to this decision and on Vietnam-U.S. relations in general.

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai held that the meeting between the Vietnamese and U.S. foreign ministers is a positive signal in the bilateral relationship. Vietnam welcomes U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's statement and hopes that the United States will gradually develop its normal relations with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. He also stated that Vietnam and the United States have so far understood each other regarding the road map for the restoration of bilateral relations advanced by the U.S. side recently. He affirmed that Vietnam neither rejects nor accepts this road map, considering it a U.S. position.

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai declared that Vietnam and the United States have started talks on the normalization issue and have reached some positive agreements.

According to the United States, the normalization of its relations with Vietnam depends in part on the speed of solving the question of Americans missing in action. For its part, Vietnam holds that the missing-in-action issue is simply a humanitarian issue. Its settlement should not be made the condition for normalization. Vietnam will continue its efforts to solve the missing-in-action issue under whatever circumstances—normalization or not.

Mr. Le Mai also reiterated Vietnam's stand on negotiations with the United States. These should be based on the principle of mutual interests and equality. There still remain hindrances and obstacles to the normalization of the U.S.-Vietnamese relations so long as the United States has not yet realized that normalization is in its own interest.

Mr. Le Mai disclosed that Vietnam and the United States will have official talks on the normalization of bilateral relations next month and this time bilateral relations will certainly be improved a step.

Also at this press conference, Mr. Le Mai answered many questions raised by newsmen from the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW and the British news agency REUTERS on the Vietnam-Cambodia relations. He affirmed that at present no Vietnamese advisers remain in Cambodia. There are only some businessmen, technicians, and experts working under business contracts signed between the two countries.

Concerning armed supply to the Cambodian factions, Mr. Le Mai said: Vietnam has many a time called for an end to all such arms shipments. For their parts, the Cambodian factions in the last six months have declared that they will not receive foreign military aid. During the last six months, there has been a suspension of armed supply to all Cambodian factions.

Senator Cited on Move To Lift Trade Embargo

BK2510155691 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—U.S. Senator Frank H. Murkowski, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has urged President G. Bush to end the trade embargo against Vietnam which, he believed will foster a meaningful resolution of the POW-MIA issue and broaden the prospects for peace and stability throughout, Indochina.

In a letter to the American leader on October 21, Senator Murkowski argued that ending the embargo would strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness in Southeast Asia, help foster a more stable economy in Vietnam thereby stemming the flow of refugees from that country.

The senator has also writtan to his colleagues in the U.S. Senate urging them to sign to the letter.

Papers Reaffirm Stance on Cambodia Issue

BK2510100791 Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—NHAN DAN today reaffirms the Vietnamese Government's stance that the implementation of the Cambodian peace agreement, particularly the provisions relating to the United Nations' role in Cambodia in the transition period, must be based on the respect for the U.N. Charter, the sovereignty of Cambodia as well as the sovereignty and security of its neighbours.

In an editorial today in connection with the signing in Paris on October 23 of the peace agreement on Cambodia, the paper stresses that the implementation of the agreement is a process requiring efforts of all parties. It goes on: "Vietnam is prepared, together with all signatories and the United Nations, to fully discharge its responsibility in implementing the agreement aimed at guaranteeing a stable and lasting peace in Cambodia, respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and inviolability and national unity of Cambodia, respect Cambodia's neutrality and non-alignment, respect the sovereignty of Cambodia's neighbours, thus contributing to peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia."

The paper reaffirms Vietnam's external policy of normalizing and diversifying its relations, and readiness to cooperate with all countries, firstly those in Southeast Asia and the Asian Pacific region on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

"The Vietnamese people wish that the darkest months and years of the Cambodian nation have definitively passed and the Cambodian people, in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord, would overcome all difficulties in order to build a prosperous and strong country and a bright future, thus making active contributions to the cause of peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia," NHAN DAN concludes.

For its part, the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN says:

"The signing of the peace agreement does not mean that Cambodia has now secured the necessary and favourable conditions for building a peaceful, independent, neutral and unified country. The painful pages of history and years of civil war have left serious consequences which cannot be overcome in a short time. At the same time, it must be noted that the transition period in Cambodia will be fraught with complexities when the political struggle among the various forces in the country will embark on quite a different stage.

"Yet, we hope that there would be a peaceful transition period without the threat of vilolence and that the Cambodian parties would satisfactorily solve their internal issues in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord. This is the time to be optimistic and to rejoice because the most difficult and complicated period has ended. But it is also the time to prepare for a new period in the fulfilment of our pledge for the happiness of the Cambodian people, for peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia," the paper adds.

Vo Van Kiet Arrives in Jakarta for Visit

BK2410154291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] According to reports from Jakarta, today, 24 October, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet and a high-level 20-member delegation arrived in Jakarta, Indonesia, on the first leg of a visit to three Southeast Asian countries.

This evening, 24 October, Chairman Vo Van Kiet will receive Moerdani, vice president and minister of national defense, Finance Minister Sumarlin, and Army Commander-in-Chief General Sutrisno who will pay a courtesy visit to him before attending a reception at the Merdeka Palace.

The official talks between Chairman Vo Van Kiet and Indonesian President Suharto will take place tomorrow, 25 October. In the meantime, ministers and high-ranking officials of the Vietnamese delegation are also scheduled to hold talks with their Indonesian counterparts.

Vietnam and Indonesia plan to sign two bilateral agreements—the first one on investment protection and the second one on aviation.

On 26 October, Chairman Vo Van Kiet will tour an oil refinery plant in eastern Java before going to Bali Island and then leaving for Thailand on 27 October.

Suharto Speaks at Banquet

BK2510094491 Hanoi VNA in English 0651 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia and Madame Suharto hosted a formal dinner yesterday evening at the state palace in honour of Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam and Madame Vo Van Kiet and the other members of the Vietnamese Government delegation.

Present on the host side were Vice President and Madame Sudharmono, Minister of Defence and Security Moerdani and many high-ranking government officials.

In his greeting speech, President Suharto said :

"I believe that your present visit will not only give us the opportunity to get better acquainted and to have a deeper mutual understanding but also to strengthen further the existing close friendly relation and cooperation between our two countries and nations. We are sure that the friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding constitute essential elements for the well-being and prosperity of nations.

... Both Vietnam and Indonesia shared the same experience and made similar sacrifices to regain, uphold and defend our independence. We have both gained our independence through wars and revolutions. This is the reason why we share similar viewpoints on various fundamental issues. For instance, our two countries are strictly adhering to the Bandung ten principles and the principles of peaceful coexistence."

On the relations with Vietnam President Suharto said:

"Indonesia has also been watching closely the process of development being carried out by the Vietnamese Government and people. We are admiring the steps taken by the Vietnamese Government and people. We also welcome the policy adopted by your government to promote closer relations with other countries, particularly with the neighbouring countries in Southeast Asia.

In connection with development, I notice the many fields of cooperation that we can both develop together. Not only in the economic field and trade, but in the social and cultural sectors as well. The promotion of closer cooperation in the social and cultural fields will certainly provide a strong basis for greater mutually beneficial economic collaboration.

As sovereign nations, we certainly have our respective answers to the various national and international questions confronting us. The answers may possibly be different. But I am sure that motivated by the friendship, mutual understanding and goodwill, these differences

will not pose as obstacles to the establishment of an even closer cooperation beetween our two countries."

Vo Van Kiet Meets Ministers

BK2510154391 Hanoi VNA in English 1425 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—During his current visit to Indonesia Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received on separate occasions at the Wisma Negara (State Palace) in Jakarta on Oct 24 Moerdani, minister of defence and security, J.B. Sumarlin, minister of finance and Gen. Try Sutrisno, chief of the general- staff of the Armed Forces of Indonesia.

At these meetings, Premier Vo Van Kiet thanked the Indonesian Government and people for their heartfelt assistance to the Vietnamese people now as in the past. He also expressed Vietnam's desire to share experiences with Indonesia in national construction and economic development.

For their part, the Indonesian ministers welcomed the expanded multi-faceted relations of cooperation between the two countries and noted that the potentials for developing the bilateral relations in trade and investment needed to be fully tapped. The minister of finance expressed Indonesia's readiness to help Vietnam in personnel training.

Commercial Cooperation With Indonesia Promoted

BK2510160591 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—Commercial and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Indonesia have picked up in recent years. Bilateral trade exchanges rose to USD 70 million in 1990, up by sixfold from 1985.

The signing of an agreement on scientific and technological cooperation during President Suharto's visit to Vietnam in November 1990 and the holding of the first meeting of the Vietnam-Indonesia Joint Committee in Jakarta during Vietnamese Minister of Commerce and Tourism Le Van Triet's visit to Indonesia are new milestones in the Vietnam-Malaysia relations.

At the meeting, the two sides agreed to increase the value of exchanges and apply diversied forms of payment between companies and individuals of the two countries.

The Vietnam Committee for Cooperation and Investment has granted licences to four Indonesian investment projects: The Sasage Tailoring Joint Venture with an authorised capital of USD 200,000 equally owned by both sides. The venture is now in the first stage of its operation. The Indovina Bank joint venture with an authorised capital of USD 10 million equally owned by both sides valid for 30 years to handle foreign currency transactions. The Indovina- helicopters joint venture with an authorised capital of USD 50,000 of which 70 percent are contributed by Vietnam. It is servicing oil exploitation in the Vung Tau-Con Dao area. The P.T. Vietmindo Energitama, a joint venture with Uong Bi Coal Company in coal mining in Quang Ninh Province with an investment of USD 27 million.

Preparations and feasibility studies are under way for oil prospection by Pertavina Oil Company of Indonesia at lot 2 offshore Vietnam, and a joint venture with Astra Suma group to upgrade a number of hotels and produce glass and cement.

In 1990-1991, Vietnam sent 12 teams of economic and technical experts to Indonesia to exchange experiences.

Signing of ASEAN Cooperation Treaty Supported

BK2510095091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 25 Oct 91

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 25 (AFP)—Vietnam wants to sign the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' Bali cooperation treaty and already has the backing of three of the group's six members, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan said here Friday.

The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-East Asia, signed by ASEAN leaders in Bali in 1976, is open to all regional countries.

Papua New Guinea has been the only country to sign and has observer status in the group's ministerial meetings and summits.

"We have just sent official letters to all countries of ASEAN in order to arrange the signing process and we have received positive responses from some countries." Vu Khoan told a press conference here on the second day of a visit by Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet.

"Vietnam put priority on cooperation with neighbouring countries and that is why we are ready to participate in ASEAN, but the first step is by signing the Bali Treaty of 1976," Vu Khoan said. He said Hanoi was ready to sign the treaty "now, immediately."

He said favorable responses had already come from Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia and believed the Philippines "does not plan to reject it."

The issue would be raised by Van Kiet during talks with leaders of Singapore, which he will visit after Indonesia and Thailand.

Vu Khoan did not say whether he had received any response from Brunei, the other member of ASEAN. However, analysts pointed out that all ASEAN member countries have to approve unanimously the Vietnamese request. And the decision could only be taken when the group's leaders meet during the upcoming ASEAN summit in Singapore early next year, they added.

Indonesian Foreign Ministry sources said "the ideological situation prevailing in Vietnam" would be "one of the handicaps" to Vietnam eventually becoming a member of ASEAN. Vietnam has repeatedly said it will stand fast to its socialist ideology.

Fiji

Minister Says Growers Undermining Economy

BK2310091291 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] The primary industries minister in Fiji's interim government has accused sugarcane growers of trying to undermine the economy by planning to boycott this year's harvest.

Mr. Viliame Gonelevu made the accusation in a statement which said the previous boycott had almost destroyed the sugar industry—Fiji's biggest export earner. He said proposed industrial action would bring more suffering and hardship to sugar workers and the industry which was still recovering from the previous boycott.

The long-running boycott ended last July under an agreement reached beteen the government and the National Farmers Union which represents the growers.

However, the Union says the government has reneged on the agreement. It has organized a three-day harvest boycott from 5 November. Correspondents in Suva said that while a three-day boycott will not cause serious economic damage there is a possibility of the dispute continuing and spreading to other unions.

Human Rights Expert Demands Protection for Hindus

BK2110085091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] An Australian human rights expert has called on the Fiji Government to ensure the protection of Hindu temples and Hindu people in the country. Pacific correspondent Eleanor Reddin reports the call by the Reverend Richard Wooten of the United Church of Justice Committee follows an increase in religious intolerance in Fiji.

[Begin Reddin recording] In recent weeks, several Hindu temples have been desecrated and a Hindu priest attacked. Mr. Wooten said the violence were shameful and those behind it should realize Fiji was being demeaned by it. He said the recent attack showed there was a danger of upsurge of violence against the Indian community in Fiji. [end recording]

Papua New Guinea

Bougainville Denies Reports of Leadership Changes

BK2410074891 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] The self-styled interim government on Papua New Guinea's secessionist island of Bougainville has denied claims there has been a change in the leadership of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA]. The country's national broadcast, the NBC, has quoted government sources as saying the three leaders—Francis Ona, Joseph Kabui, and Sam Kauona—had been replaced by three BRA hardliners. It said the leadership change had come about as a result of the power struggle among BRA leaders over the last eight months.

However, an interim government representative in Honiara described the report as untrue. He said James Sinoco, who was reported to have replaced Mr. Ona as supreme commander, was still the chairman of the Supreme Advisory Council.

The Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation said it had been in contact today with Mr. Kabui, the chairman of the interim government on Bougainville and he had made no mention of changes in the leadership.

Interim Authority Planned for Bougainville

BK2310085291 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] It has been announced that an interim government authority is to be set up in the southern part of Papua New Guinea [PNG]'s secessionist island of Bougainville. The announcement came after two days of talks in Honiara between the PNG government and loyalist leaders from South Bougainville.

In a joint communique, the provincial government minister, Father John Momis, and the leader of the South Bougainville delegation, Anthony Anugu, said the new authority would be called the South Bougainville Interim Constituent Assembly. They said its formation was completely in line with the Honiara Declaration signed in January by the PNG Government and the secessionist leaders on Bougainville.

The communique said Port Moresby would provide the new authority with more than $10 million [currency not further specified] in 1992 as part of the reconstruction (?process).

Speaking at a joint press conference Father Momis said the formation of the authority was part of the policy of involving leaders on Bougainville in the restoration of services on the island. Mr. Anugu said elections will be held soon for 17 members of the new assembly with eight others being appointed by local chiefs.